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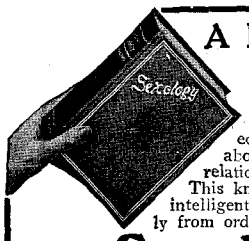
SYMBOLISM OF THE COVER DESIGN.—The figure on our cover this week represents THE LITERARY DIGEST holding, "as 'twere, the mirror up to nature," and reflecting the thought and activities of our time. The design is the work of Mr. Adolph Treidler.



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PUBLIC OPINION (New York) combined with THE LITERARY DIGEST

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VOL. XLIII., No. 26 NEW YORK, DECEMBER 23, 1911 WHOLE NUMBER 1131

TOPICS OF THE DAY

WHY OUR ARMY IS INEFFICIENT

IN SPITE of the enormous sums we spend for military efficiency, our Army, according to the Secretary of War, is wholly unprepared for anything but peace. War with a first-class Power, he informs Congress, would find the Army practically ineffectual owing to lack of concentration, lack of reserves, and lack of field-artillery and ammunition. At the same time we "pay for effective riflemen between two and five times as much as any first-class Power on the continent of Europe," this comparison being made "after excluding the higher pay and subsistence which our soldiers receive." If we had any fear of the imminence of war, Secretary Stimson's report might be considered alarming, remarks the New York *Times*, which adds: "But the Republic is at peace with all the world and hopes to remain so." "Every intelligent citizen knows that our Army is unprepared for war with a first-class Power," but our unpreparedness "need not, and does not, in the least disturb the national equanimity," declares the Pittsburg *Chronicle-Telegraph*. "The American nation is not looking for war," it goes on to say, and, "being free from entanglements and safeguarded by the position of our territory, we need no military establishment maintained on a war footing." "There is consolation," remarks the Chicago *Journal*, "in the assurance that there will be no occasion to test the efficiency of the Army during the administration of so pessimistic a secretary." In the main, however, altho the papers refuse to be alarmed over Secretary Stimson's report, they indorse his demand for greater military efficiency and comment approvingly on the specific recommendations he offers to this end.

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"WE HAVE SCATTERED OUR ARMY."

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, in his first annual report, declares that owing principally to the lack of concentration, the Army is ineffective for "serious active service."

These recommendations, we are told, have the approval of Major-General Leonard Wood, Chief of Staff. Some of the suggestions are the result of lessons learned from the mobilization on the Mexican border last spring. The chief reforms advocated may be briefly summarized as follows:

Concentration of the Army's scattered units, for reasons of economy as well as efficiency; maintaining a large portion of the regiments of the mobile Army at war strength; shortening the term of enlistment, so as to create a reserve force of men in civil life with a military training, to be available in an emergency; establishing a reserve supply of ammunition for the field-artillery.

The two main defects, Mr. Stimson finds, are the post system and the lack of reserves. Of the disadvantages and incongruities of the post system, he says:

"The mobile Army is distributed among forty-nine army posts in twenty-four States and Territories. Thirty-one of these posts have a capacity for less than a regiment each, only six have a capacity for more than a regiment, and only one has a capacity for a brigade.

"Nearly all of these posts have been located in their present situations for reasons which are either now totally obsolete or which were from the beginning purely local. Most of them were originally placed where they are with reference to Indian troubles during times when such troubles were possible. Comparatively few of them are in positions suited to meet the strategic needs of national action or defense.

"We have scattered our Army over the country as if it were merely groups of local constabulary instead of a national organization. The result is an Army which is extraordinarily expensive to maintain and one whose efficiency for the main purpose of its existence has been nullified so far as geographical location can nullify it."

On the subject of reserves he says in part:

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"It must be remembered that at the beginning of a serious war the burden of national defense will fall first on the regular Army pending the calling out of the organized militia and national volunteers. The Army, on the peace footing on which we habitually maintain it, with its miniature companies and troops, is ineffective for any such serious active service. Not only this, but the losses which are certain to take place during the first six months of operations will amount to a very large percentage of the Army's strength. It is therefore absolutely imperative that provision should be made by an adequate system of regular reserves to fill up and maintain this first line of defense during the necessary time that must elapse while we are preparing and mobilizing our militia and volunteers. I urgently recommend that legislation to this end be adopted."

Turning to the question of field-artillery, we find the following startling statements:

"There is not enough field-artillery ammunition for the guns we now have for a single engagement such as were frequent in the Manchurian war. The manufacture of this material involves processes requiring much time and there is no way to hasten. It follows of course that provision must be made for such material long in advance of its probable use. At the present rate of appropriation it is estimated that it would take more than fifty years to secure a reasonable supply of the field-artillery guns, carriages, and ammunition that would be necessary in event of war."

Clearly, remarks the Providence *Journal*, "there are too many military posts, as there are too many navy-yards"; and it goes on to speak of the difficulties in the way of Secretary Stimson's reforms:

"When it comes to the practise of concentration of units the naval strategists are more fortunate in their liberty than those of the Army. A full-strength fighting fleet is being developed by Secretary Meyer without need of congressional action. All that is asked of Congress is to refrain from such interference as is illustrated in the agitation to send half the fleet to the Pacific coast. With the Army, on the other hand, the desired dispositions can not be made until Congress is induced to abandon some of the stations among which the troops are scattered without reference to any sensible considerations."

The naval review at New York and the mobilization on the Mexican frontier, says the Philadelphia *Press*, "showed the country that neither the Navy nor Army was ready for war." It goes on to say:

"The maneuver camp in Texas proved, as every one who knew our service was aware, that the United States has troops, but no army. It has regiments, but it has not in the modern military sense brigades, divisions, nor an army corps, and a modern war can not be fought without an army-corps organization.

"This organization can not be made when war comes. It must be prepared, practised, and kept in order for war. An array of 20,000 troops was brought together in Texas with surprizing rapidity, but they came there by regimental units and not as part of an organized force."

"The contingency of war, however remote it may appear, can not be regarded with apathy or indifference," urges the Baltimore *American;* and the Indianapolis *News* insists that Congress could not do better than to put into effect all of Mr. Stimson's recommendations. *The News* goes on to say:

"This nation does not have its eyes set on war. We think we have a better mission in the world. But it challenges our common sense and public virtue that in maintaining the skeleton Army, which is to be the country's nucleus, we should mismanage as badly as we do. We need concentration of army posts, a full state of readiness—which is an army's chief justification—and an economical administration."

Particularly emphatic in its indorsement of the Secretary's view is the Detroit *Free Press*, which considers our present establishment "no army at all." "We are living in a fool's paradise," it declares, "and some fine day we shall awaken from our Utopian dream of peace to find ourselves helpless before some great Power which drills all its able-bodied men."

On the other hand, the Baltimore *News* thinks that we have just the kind of army we need, since its main use is likely to be as a constabulary force rather than as a defense against an outside enemy. To quote:

"Rightly or not, we have come to look upon our standing Army not with reference to possible international conflicts but as a last resort for the maintenance of internal peace.

"The concentration of large bodies of troops in single fortresses is rendered possible in Europe by the size of European armies, and the countries are not so small but that, despite it, troops are instantly available in all sections. If we concentrate our regiments, this advantage must be surrendered; and it is a broad question whether the training of the men for a problematical war is of more value than the knowledge that the Government is everywhere able to back up its authority by arms. It has been proved that a handful of regulars can make as great an impression upon rioters as a regiment of militia—not because they are more efficient, but because they represent the Govern-

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UNDER THE MISTLETOE.
—McCutcheon in the Chicago *Tribune.*

LEAP-YEAR COMING!
—Carter in the New York *Globe.*

CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S SUGGESTIONS.

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Several Governors of Northwestern States are visiting the cities of the East in a special train, with exhibit cars full of Northwestern products. In Baltimore they encountered a group of Southern Governors and transportation executives who had gathered to discuss the question of promoting immigration to the South. The combined parties are here photographed on board the steamship *Howard* in Baltimore harbor.

Those numbered are: 1. Gov. Tasker L. Oddie, Nevada; 2. Gov. A. O. Eberhart, Minnesota; 3. Gov. Robert S. Vessey, South Dakota; 4. Gov. H. S. Hadley, Missouri; 5. Gov. Edwin L. Norris, Montana; 6. W. W. Finley, Pres. Southern Railway; 7. Gov. Joseph M. Carey, Wyoming; 8. Gov. Judson Harmon, Ohio; 9. Gov. Edmond F. Noel, Mississippi; 10. Gov. William Hodges Mann, Virginia; 11. Gov. Austin L. Crothers, Maryland; 12. Ex-Gov. James H. Brady, Idaho, President Western Governor's Special; 13. Mayor James H. Preston, Baltimore; 14. Lieut.-Gov. Stephen R. Fitzgerald, Colorado; 15. Gov. John Burke, North Dakota; 16. Mr. Daniel Willard, President of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

ment and all its resources for resistance and punishment. The moral effect of the United States uniform is tremendous.

"In the effort to build up a war army is this point not being overlooked? If we can not imitate Europe in both respects, is the rôle of the Army as a constabulary extraordinary not the more valuable?"

PENSIONS AND POLITICS

AS NOBODY, apparently, expects the Sherwood "dollar-a-day" Pension Bill to become a law, its passage by the House last week is discust as a spectacular move in the political game rather than as an act of legislation. If this bill should pass the Senate and receive the President's signature, it would add, according to various estimates, from $35,000,000 to $75,000,000 to the pension roll—that is to say, to the taxation of the general public. This last general act of largess, as one editor remarks, discards all limitations. Some Republican papers characterize is as a bribe for the "old soldier" vote so shamelessly offered that the old soldier himself must resent the insult. In this bill, declares the New York *Tribune* (Rep.), every consideration of reason is thrown aside and the payment provided is "a mere gratuity, a mere 'hand-out' of unexampled dimensions, offered with unconcealed cynicism just when the old soldiers are about to cast their votes in a Presidential election." Its authorization by the House, remarks the Baltimore *Sun* (Ind. Dem.), "was an act of political cowardice, pure and simple, in which both parties showed the white feather."

The bill was adopted by a non-partizan vote of 229 to 92, all the Republicans but eight voting for it and eighty-four Democrats, including their leader, Mr. Underwood, against it. But, as the press point out, the Democrats control the House, and therefore to them belongs the praise or the blame for what the House does. The Democratic Congressmen who voted for this prodigal swelling of the pension list, say the Washington correspondents, were moved in part by the desire to "put President Taft in a hole" by passing a pension bill so indefensible that he would have to veto it, and in part by considerations touching the old-soldier vote in their own districts and their own approaching contests for reelection. In connection with the latter phase of the situation it is notable that those Democrats who opposed the bill on a roll-call vote were chiefly from the Southern States, where the Union veteran vote is a negligible factor. As an effort to embarrass the President and his party the move is regarded in many quarters as of very doubtful efficiency. Thus in a Washington dispatch to the New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.) we read:

"If the Democrats should be able to put the Pension Bill through the Senate, as they have through the House, and get it signed by the President, the political effect of such an obvious political sop would be doubtful. But every one knows that the President will veto it. The Democrats will be blamed—as they have been blamed already by their own leaders—for breaking their economy pledges, and still no money will reach the districts. The same thing will happen in regard to the Public Buildings Bill. And whatever credit comes from it will go to President Taft."

"No Republican President ever vetoed a pension bill and none will ever do it," declares Representative Richard W. Austin (Rep.), of Tennessee. But his confidence on this point does not seem to be very widely shared. Mr. George Griswold Hill, in his Washington correspondence to the New York *Tribune* (Rep.), reports that "there is little doubt in the minds of those familiar with the views of President Taft that he will veto the Sherwood Bill if that measure is presented for his approval." He goes on to say:

"It has been said that no President ever vetoed a pension bill on the eve of a national election, but even if that is so it will make no difference to President Taft, who will veto every bill sent to him unless he can honestly approve it, wholly without regard to the effect such a veto may have on his chances of reelection. Never within the memory of politicians now living has there been a President who was so indifferent to appeals based on the assumption that this, that, or the other act would affect his political welfare."

In fact, declares the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.), "this piece of Democratic stupidity will place a great opportunity in the hands of the President, if the bill passes the Senate, as it is to be presumed that it will." This independent paper goes on to say:

"By vetoing so vicious a measure, he could greatly strengthen

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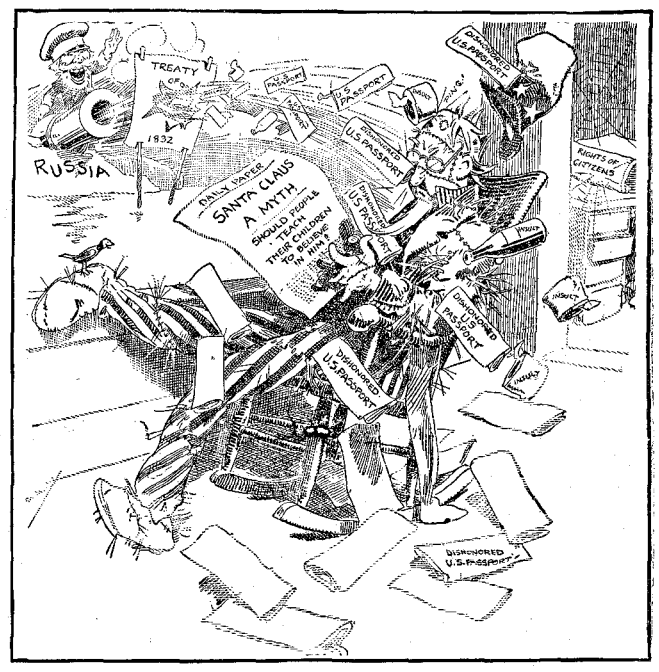
"LET NOT THY RIGHT HAND KNOW WHAT THY LEFT HAND DOETH."
—Mayer in the New York *Times*.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IS UNCLE SAM A MYTH, TOO?
—Bradley in the Chicago *News*.

WHERE THINGS ARE NOT WHAT THEY SEEM.

himself with the steady and right-thinking people of the country. If he interposes his executive authority and prevents this unblushing raid on the Treasury, he will knock one plank clean out of the Democratic platform next year before it is framed, for he would make ridiculous any pretense of anxiety to keep down public expenditures. It is well known, moreover, that Mr. Taft was ready last winter to veto this bill—or one substantially the same—if Congress sent it to him. . . . . .

"A downright veto by him would awaken a great response from sober citizens, and help him with them more than a dozen trips or a hundred speeches."

During the debate on the bill a Democratic Congressman, Mr. Dies, of Texas, arraigned his colleagues in the following terms:

"It may be that to be honest on this question would beat us for the Presidency and leave some of our Democratic seats vacant. I have about come to the conclusion that there are a great many seats here on both sides of the chamber that ought to be vacant. I do not doubt the honesty of this body, but I have lost respect for its courage. I think decapitation for a good many cowardly statesmen here would do this Republic good."

Where the question of courage comes in may be inferred from the following further statements in *The Evening Post:*

"No one can read even hastily the debate on the Pension Bill in the House without perceiving that an enormous but secret political pressure was applied to Representatives. The arguments, the serious warnings, the sound reasons of public policy were all on one side, but the votes were on the other. Of this the explanation was frankly given by more than one speaker. Members were being intimidated. Their defeat at the polls was threatened if they stood out against the bill. Letters and telegrams poured in upon them. Who was behind this organized movement? Why, undoubtedly, what one Union veteran, Mr. Charles Francis Adams, has described as the pension machine. Its seat is at Washington, but it has its agents all over the country. On signal from headquarters, concerted pressure is brought to bear upon any doubtful member, who is plied from his home district with mingled appeals and threats. The men who engineer this pension machine know exactly what they want. They are determined that the annual pension burden shall never be lessened. Where death cuts it down by thousands, they propose to increase it by millions. Class after class they seek to include in the scope of pension laws. When the veterans are all gone, their widows and descendants will next come in for enlarged appropriations. All this may as well be understood and faced at once. It constitutes not only a public scandal and a national demoralization, but a standing danger to public finance. How can there be an approach to a scientific budget or a reasonable system of taxation if these huge sums can be suddenly flung upon the debit side? Sooner or later the country will have to smash the pension machine. The beginning of that job the Democrats have been so foolish as to put into the hands of President Taft."

OUR PASSPORT BROIL WITH RUSSIA

THE VOTE OF 300 TO 1 by which the House of Representatives passed the Sulzer Bill demanding the abrogation of the Russian treaty of 1832, because of Russia's persistent discrimination against our Jewish citizens, was practically foreshadowed by the unanimity of press opinion upon this point. Votes of Congressmen and editorials of daily papers show that this is neither a party nor a sectional question. Our "supine consent" to a "permanent insult from Russia" rouses the New York *American* (Ind.) to a burst of indignation—"while we permit Russia to throw out as she pleases passports carried by American citizens of a religious faith distasteful to her, we politely recognize every passport that Russia sends, and give full welcome to citizens bringing with them the Russian religious belief in spite of the fact that that belief, involving religious control of government and of citizens, is absolutely repugnant to American institutions and American doctrines." That this "supine consent" has at last come to an end is indicated not only by the action of Congress, but by President Taft's official notice to Russia of this Government's intention to abrogate the treaty.

Going a step farther, the Minneapolis *Journal* (Ind. Rep.) would "abrogate also the Extradition Convention of 1887 with Russia," which is "far more advantageous for Russia than for us, since it enables the Czar to pursue and apprehend fugitives whose real offenses are political, whenever non-political crimes can be successfully alleged against them." The Russian police-spy system, it thinks, "would be greatly handicapped, were this country to become an inviolable asylum for Russian fugitives by the abrogation of the convention."

Thus in a host of American dailies denunciations of Russia's conduct lead to declarations that abrogation is the only course. Yet here and there an editor is found pointing out some other solution. Instead of repealing the treaty, suggests the Buffalo

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DEMONSTRATIVE MEETING OF TWO OLD-TIME FRIENDS.
—Fox in the Chicago *Evening Post.*

THE DISSOLVING VIEW.
—Macauley in the New York *World.*

SWEET DREAMLAND FACES PASSING TO AND FRO.

Express (Rep.), why not "adopt the policy of canceling at once the exequatur of any Russian consul who declines to approve a passport for an American citizen"? Quoting further:

"That would not have to be done more than two or three times before the Czar's Foreign Office would begin to bestir itself and ask what was the matter. That would force negotiations of some kind without directly interfering in any way with the trade which Americans now enjoy in Russia. The Russian Government might retaliate, just as it may retaliate for the repeal of the treaty. If so, we should be no worse off than we will be after repealing the treaty. And anyhow, it would become impossible to put us off any longer with a promise of investigation and an answer sometime in the indefinite future, as Russia has been doing for the last forty years."

The suggestion, however, which occurs most frequently is that the difference of opinion be submitted to the Hague tribunal for arbitration, and the Chicago *Record-Herald* (Ind.), San Francisco *Chronicle* (Rep.), New Orleans *Times-Democrat* (Dem.), and Salt Lake *Tribune* (Ind.) lend their support to this proposition, which has been advocated by Mr. Andrew D. White and ex-President Roosevelt. What we want, explains the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.), is an authoritative judicial interpretation of a disputed article in a treaty negotiated eighty years ago.

But "there is nothing to arbitrate," objects the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* (Rep.), or, as the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.) puts it, recourse to The Hague should be had only when diplomatic measures have failed, and there is danger of letting loose the dogs of war. In this case, similarly comments the New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.), our honor as a sovereign nation would not permit us to "accept and abide by an adverse finding by the tribunal." In short, *The Times* thinks the question not "justiciable." The unanimous action of the House of Representatives, says *The Times* elsewhere, will reenforce powerfully the President and the Department of State in the negotiations now in progress, and will make it plain to the Czar that the protest is made "not by American Jews, but by the American people." The negotiations here mentioned have been carried on at St. Petersburg between Ambassador Guild and the Russian Foreign Office, and President Taft thus hopefully refers to them in his "foreign relations" message to Congress:

"I believe that the Government of Russia is addressing itself seriously to the need of changing the present practise under the treaty, and that sufficient progress has been made to warrant the continuance of those conferences in the hope that there may soon be removed any justification of the complaints of treaty violation now prevalent in this country."

THE LAST NEWS OF THE "MAINE"

SOME THIRTEEN years ago we were "remembering the *Maine*" literally "with a vengeance." To-day, with the report of the Vreeland Board demonstrating that it was destroyed by outside explosives, the press agree that it is time to "forget the *Maine*." "We have dug up the *Maine* from the ooze of Havana, but we have not uncovered, and in all human probability never will uncover, the essential fact sought—who destroyed the ship?" But, continues the Chicago *Tribune*, in words equally expressive of editorial sentiment in scores of other sanctums, "we have cleared its officers of blame for negligence, and that is well worth while—for the rest, let's end the chapter." Tho the cause has been found, "the hand that did the deed is not disclosed," remarks the New York *Commercial*, and other dailies note that the destruction of the *Maine* is as much a mystery as ever, a mystery which many of them think will go down unsolved to future ages. There is no lack of editorial conjecture as to whether Spanish fanatics, or Cubans desiring to force a war, were responsible, but for the most part we find a substantial agreement with the Pittsburg *Gazette-Times's* declaration that the case against the Spanish Government "remains not proven." We have nothing more definite, observes the Kansas City *Star*, than Admiral Chadwick's statement in his recent book:

"That the Spanish Government was in any way responsible for the detonation of the fateful fuse, except through want of precautions against such action, is not and was not by any member of the board for a moment supposed."

Still, the St. Paul *Pioneer-Press* and Toledo *Blade* can not help avowing sentiments akin to those of the New York *Evening Mail*, which is fully convinced that "the wave of wrath which rolled over the American people was justified." Even the New York paper adds, however:

"But it is all past and gone. The crime which attached itself

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to the skirts of Castile has been terribly expiated. The price of empire which Spain paid staggered the world. The woful debt has been discharged to the last penny. . . . . .

"The dastardly blow never represented the nature of the Spanish people. Let us remember that—and let us not forget that it is Spain that has most deeply suffered from the consequences of that dark crime at Havana in February of 1898."

Tho the Vreeland Board's findings substantiated, in general, those of the earlier board headed by Captain Sampson, tho the opinions of the American people and of Europe are likely to be little changed, this investigation was worth while, is the judgment on every hand. It is a great relief, thinks the New York *Sun*, "to feel that so far as expert knowledge can determine from an inspection of the entire wreck as it lies bared to the sky, the United States Navy is not responsible for the disaster that was fraught with such dire consequences."

Yet those who have always believed the *Maine* was blown up by an interior explosion are not likely to change their minds even now, it occurs to the New Orleans *Picayune* to say. This remark is verified by Admiral Melville's reiteration of his "belief that the *Maine* was destroyed from within" and by an editorial in the Hartford *Times*, which stubbornly asserts that "the explosion on the *Maine*, like those which have wrecked so many French war-ships, was the result of an internal cause."

A story which corroborates the report of the naval committee, in the view of the Baltimore *American*, but which leaves the mystery as deep as ever, according to the New York *Times* and Washington *Star*, is told by Mr. A. C. Brice, who was United States consul at Matanzas in 1898. This is his statement, as it appears in the newspapers:

"Two nights before the destruction of the *Maine* a man whom I know and who was not an American came to my residence at midnight, and upon the promise that I would not reveal his name, told me the *Maine* would be blown up. I sent a special messenger to Fitzhugh Lee, Consul-General at Havana, but the officials there failed to credit the warning. The next day the explosion took place.

"When I returned to the United States I reported the incident to President McKinley and the Secretary of State, and the President requested that no publicity be given to the incident at that time. I respected his wish, but feel at liberty to make a statement now that the Naval Board has reported that a mine touched off from the outside caused the ship's magazine to explode."

Amplifying this brief account later, Mr. Brice says that he recognized his mysterious caller as "a former Spanish officer no longer connected with the Spanish Army, and a Cuban sympathizer," and that this man "referred to the passageways from the Governor's palace, and said he did not know whether the destruction was to be executed from there or whether the mine was already planted and the battle-ship was located by direction of the authorities in a position where it would stand or the wind would swing it over the mine at a certain hour."

The findings of the *Maine* Board of Inquiry are, of course, more detailed and more technical than that of the earlier investigators, who had to depend entirely upon the testimony of divers, and differ with it as to the precise location of the original explosion, but in essentials the reports are in accord. To quote the vital paragraphs from the document submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Navy last week:

"The board finds that the injuries to the bottom of the *Maine* were caused by the explosion of a charge of a low form of explosive exterior to the ship between frames 28 and 31, strake B, port side.

"This resulted in igniting and exploding the contents of the six-inch reserve magazine, A-14-M, said contents including a large quantity of black powder.

"The more or less complete explosion of the contents of the remaining forward magazine followed. The magazine explosion resulted in the destruction of the vessel."

PUBLICITY FOR RAILROAD FINANCE

AUTOMATIC REGULATION of railroad securities looms into view in the report of the commission appointed by Congress to investigate the subject of federal regulation in this field. Under present conditions, the commission finds, the proposed federal regulation of stock and bond issues would involve irreconcilable conflict with State laws. So instead of regulation at Washington, it advocates a publicity so complete that the security-buying public will be able to do its own regulating. As the Pure Food Law enables a man to know what he is buying, altho it does not certify that the thing he is buying is good for him, so would it be with a securities law based on the recommendations of this commission. "Accurate knowledge of the facts concerning the issue of securities and the expenditure of their proceeds is the matter of most importance," say the commissioners. "It is the one thing on which the federal government can effectively insist to-day; it is the fundamental thing which must serve as the basis for whatever additional regulation may be desirable in the future." The commissioners, with President Hadley at their head, are unanimous in their conclusions. "It would be fortunate, indeed," remarks the New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.), "if there were unanimous acceptance of their recommendations."

After discussing the effect which the issue of stock at less than par may have on interstate commerce, the report says:

"As far as concerns the immediate action of Congress, we believe that stringent provisions regarding publicity of stock and bond issues, which will show how far the laws are obeyed, and will enable the federal government to hold the railroad officials responsible for the consequences of not obeying them, will be more salutary and more effective than any new statutory demands. So long as the railways engaged in interstate commerce are chartered by the States and subject to State laws regarding their securities, added federal restriction will tend to create further confusion in a situation already too complex.

"But we also believe that the time is near when the difficulties of the present system of dual control and the conflict of State laws will become so manifest that further legislation on the subject will be imperative. . . . . .

"In place of any added federal requirements concerning payment for capital stock, your commission recommends the adoption of provisions regarding publicity which will show the actual facts regarding stock and bond issues in the several States and the consideration received therefor. . . . . .

"An act of this kind does not limit the freedom of the several States to make any kind of laws which they please regarding their own corporations."

As a further step in the publicity plan, the commission would give the Interstate Commerce Commission full power to make physical valuations. Under these conditions the commissioners believe that market values will be adjusted by the intelligence of the purchaser, and that water will not creep into stocks. This view is echoed by a large portion of the press. In the Chicago *Evening Post* (Ind.), we read:

"The Hadley report takes the position that the federal regulation of railroad securities is neither so difficult nor so easy as has been thought. It will not be difficult, says the commission, to remedy in large measure the evils of over-capitalization, of excessive promotional profits, of high rates due to extravagance and bad management. An illuminating publicity which would enable investors to protect themselves would to a large degree cure these troubles. On the other hand, the commission insists, those who talk glibly about a federal supervision of every issue of railway stocks or bonds fail wholly to consider the great difficulties in the way. Such a course would be undesirable for several reasons, which are duly gone into. The false air of soundness and security which the Government's 'O. K.' would give to a proposed issue of stock is alone enough to condemn the plan on grounds of public policy."

"Publicity uniform for the whole country will have a corrective force against future inflation and an informing force in public

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rate regulation and private investment," says the New York *World* (Dem.), and *The Wall Street Journal* (Fin.) agrees that "the true protection of the public, the shipper, the consumer, and the investor" lies in "the fullest possible publicity."

POSTAL PROFITS AND IMPROVEMENTS

THE POSTAL SURPLUS of $219,000 announced by Postmaster-General Hitchcock in his report, whether real, as most editors gladly admit, or nominal, as more critical observers insist, should at least, declares the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.), "kill the old notion that the postal deficit was the act of God." If the surplus is real, "the Taft Administration deserves much credit for an achievement that none of its predecessors has been able to exhibit for nearly thirty years," and, continues the Springfield daily, "had the same announcement been made in the last year of the Roosevelt Administration, we should have been fairly deafened by the shrieking chorus of praise and congratulation over this 'unparalleled administrative triumph.'" Yes, "but in these sad and sober days from which the glamour has faded," remarks the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* (Ind.), it appears to many, especially in insurgent ranks, as being "not much to brag about." Still, the boasters appear to outnumber the scoffers. And in their ranks appear not only Administration supporters but Progressive journals like the Jersey City *Journal* (Ind. Rep.), Newark *News* (Ind.), and Chicago *Record-Herald* (Ind.), and opposition dailies like the Baltimore *Sun* (Ind. Dem.) and Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.). The Dallas *News* (Dem.) even contends at some length that Mr. Hitchcock has brought "more vigor, enterprise, and initiative to the management of the country's postal affairs" than any of his predecessors, and that his "record of undisputed accomplishments" makes him "probably the most distinguished Postmaster-General the country has ever had."

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
—Macauley in the New York *World*.

Now the "three cheerful features" in what is usually a "depressing" report, are, according to the Baltimore *Sun*,

"First—A surplus instead of the customary deficit.
"Second—A promise to urge a parcel-post.
"Third—A promise of one-cent letter postage."

Several parcel-post bills, it will be remembered, have been introduced in Congress, and some definite action in the near future seems more than likely. The Newark *News* finds "much to commend" in Mr. Hitchcock's scheme for its gradual inauguration, first upon rural free-delivery routes and in cities having mail-carrier delivery. But in the Harrisburg *Patriot* (Ind. Dem.) we read:

"A parcel-post, over rural delivery routes and in the cities, where there can not possibly be competition with the express monopoly! The recommendation is a delusion and a snare, a false pretense, to mislead the people, and keep them quiet. . . .

"What it means, and all that it means, is that there shall be no interference with the express monopoly if Mr. Hitchcock can help it. He proposes to use the power of his office to prevent the establishment of a decent parcel-post while pretending to favor it at some future time, after the way has been paved!"

Reading Postmaster-General Hitchcock's report we learn that at the end of the last fiscal year the department had a surplus of $219,118, altho but two years ago the service was in arrears to the extent of over $17,000. Mr. Hitchcock says further at this point:

"The wiping out of the deficit has been accomplished without curtailment of postal facilities. On the contrary, important extensions have been made in every branch of the service. Since the opening of the present administration there have been established 3,734 new post-offices, delivery by carriers has been provided in 186 additional cities, and 2,516 new rural routes, aggregating 60,679 miles, have been authorized. Meanwhile the force of postal employees has been increased by more than 8,000. In compensating such employees the Department follows a liberal policy. Last year the total amount expended for salaries was approximately $14,000,000 greater than two years ago."

The report asks for legislation regulating second-class mail rates and calls attention to the growth of the postal savings system. Depositories are now established in 7,500 residential post-offices. We learn they will soon be established in about 40,000 fourth-class offices. Among other miscellaneous recommendations are those in favor of a readjustment of railway-mail pay, for the pensionings of employees, and for placing residential postmasters in classified service. The recent experiment in carrying mail by aeroplane "encourages the hope" in the mind of the Postmaster-General that ultimately the regular conveyance of mail by this means may be practicable in many districts where the natural conditions preclude other means of transportation. The parcel-post recommendation is as follows:

"The Department not only renews its recommendation of last year for legislative authority to start a parcel-post on rural routes, but asks a similar authorization for the introduction of such a service in cities and towns having delivery by carrier. After the organization of a parcel-post on rural routes and in the city delivery service is completed, its extension to include railway and other transportation lines can be more readily accomplished without impeding the handling of the ordinary mail."

An investigation by the House Committee on Expenditures in the Post-office Department reveals the fact that only 951,001,669 pounds of the 1,750,000,000-pound output from American publishing-houses last year was handled by the postal service. This was carried at one cent a pound. The publishers delivered by carriers, newsboys, and news companies, 840,466,574 pounds, by express 202,729,510 pounds, and by other rail shipments 121,491,748 pounds. The rate by express and rail varied from one-quarter of a cent to a cent a pound, but the bulk of these shipments went at a rate of one-quarter to one-half cent a pound. Commenting on these figures the New York *World* remarks:

"The post-office thus received only about one-half of the business properly belonging to it as the normal channel for the distribution of printed matter. The postal rate of a cent a pound for mail matter of this description compares with the railway rate of from one-quarter to one-half of a cent a pound and helps explain the publishers' use of other means of circulation. If the post-office were conducted on business principles an attempt would be made to recover this lost patronage. The policy instead is to drive away patronage by arbitrary classification."

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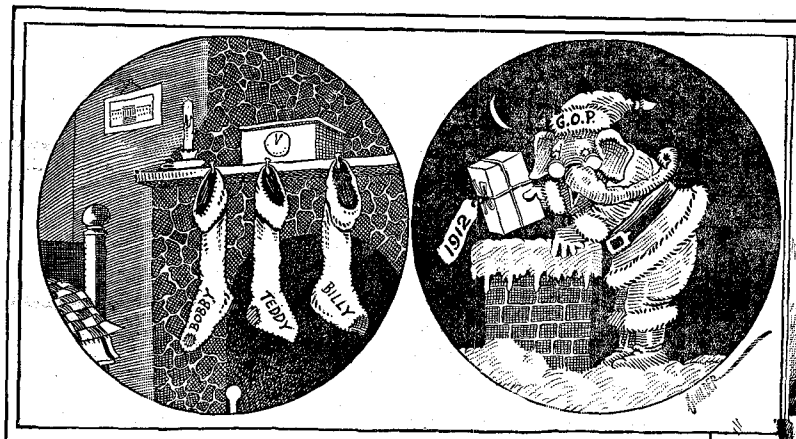
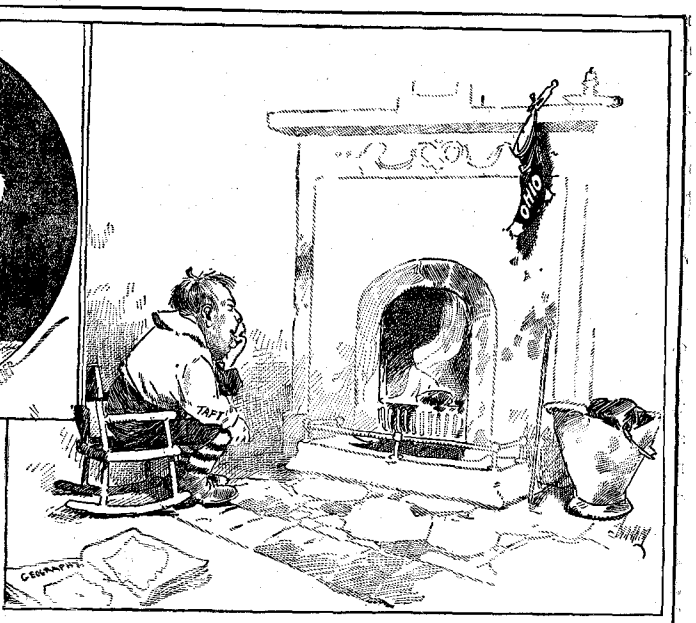
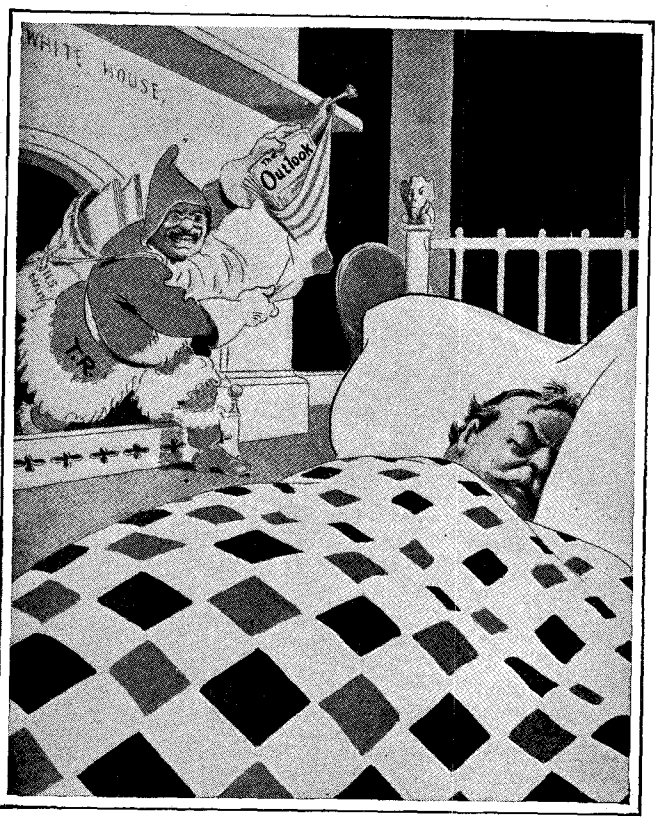


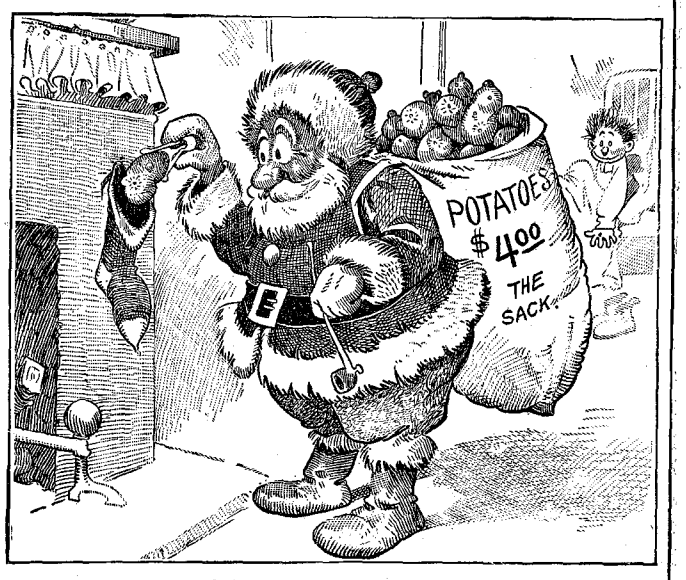
THREE STOCKINGS, BUT ONLY ONE GIFT.
—Schilder in the Indianapolis *Star*



THE EMPTY STOCKING.
—Donahey in the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!
—Hamilton in *Leslie's*.



IF THEY CONTINUE TO RISE.
—Rehse in the New York *Evening Mail*.

CHRISTMAS CARTOONERY.

TOPICS IN BRIEF

THE Socialists will now write it Lost Angeles.—*Kansas City Times.*

WHY not put Detective Burns on the trail of Mona Lisa?—*Chattanooga Times.*

WHAT Russia and England want in Persia is simply Persia.—*Springfield Republican.*

IT is hard to say who is the more ready to admit his mistakes, Mr. Taft or the Chinese Emperor.—*New York Evening Post.*

MORALLY speaking, the person usually alluded to as the man higher up is in reality the one lower down.—*Washington Star.*

IN Los Angeles, Good Government party made a clean sweep. There were women behind the broom.—*Boston Advertiser.*

WOULD it be too much to ask of the Mayor of Indianapolis that he see what he can do in the matter of bringing down the price of holiday furs?—*Christian Science Monitor.*

NEW YORK now has all-night banks, all-night saloons, and all-night restaurants. We are informed that the churches continue to close early.—*Chicago Record-Herald.*

IN effect, President Taft says in his message on the trust question, If you don't believe the Sherman Law has teeth, just let it bite you once.—*Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.*

MR. ROCKEFELLER could get along with one staid old Standard Oil Company, for they had grown up together, but he did not feel like adopting so many new children at his time of life.—*Chicago News.*

THE Black Hand next, please, Mr. Burns.—*Springfield Republican.*

LOS ANGELES Socialist candidates must agree with Kipling about the female of the species.—*Chattanooga Times.*

PERHAPS King Alfonso was afraid that the Infanta Eulalia might become the Elinor Glyn of Spain.—*Rochester Post-Express.*

MR. WICKERSHAM'S experience with ptomaines should lead to a rapprochement with Dr. Wiley.—*Springfield Republican.*

THE McNamaras are said to have been merely tools, and it begins to look as if they were of the two-edged variety.—*Baltimore Sun.*

CAN it be that Mr. Taft has his eye on a certain contributing editorship that may possibly be vacant on March 4, 1913?—*Cleveland Leader.*

IN Los Angeles 85,000 women voted, and they voted against a rigid prohibition ordinance, too. Ladies! Ladies!—*Indianapolis Star.*

LOS ANGELES is to have an official press bureau. Gracious! Hasn't the town been getting all the publicity it wants?—*Pittsburg Gazette.*

THE manner in which the fickle public sometimes bestows fame makes it appear to be more or less in the nature of a call loan.—*Washington Star.*

WHAT with Congress at Washington and Shuster at Teheran, Russia is likely to have her entire attention fixt upon American affairs before very long.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

IF this espionage craze keeps up the case will be very simple. All the Englishmen will be in German prisons and all the Germans in English prisons, and we shall have peace.—*Springfield Republican.*

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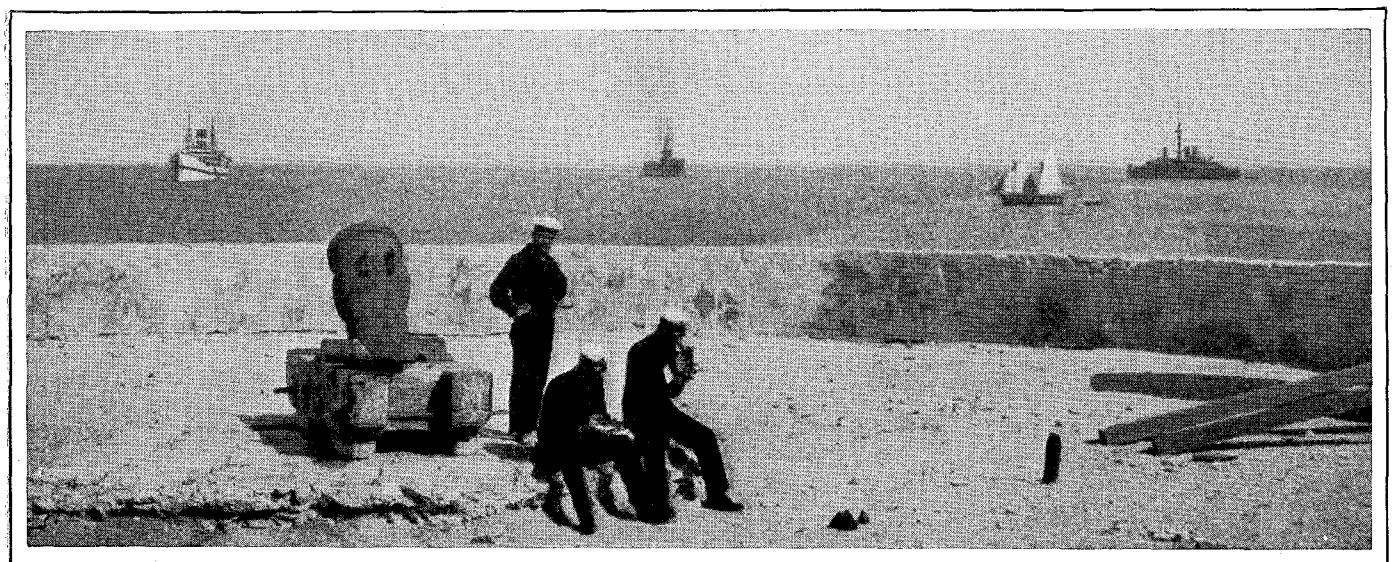
FOREIGN COMMENT



AN AMERICAN WAR-SHIP'S VISIT TO TRIPOLI.

The scout cruiser *Chester* (in the center) visited Tripoli on November 7, but did not stay, as no American interests there required protection.

POPULARITY OF THE WAR IN ITALY

THE IDEA that the war in Tripoli is distasteful and disgusting to the Italian people in general, as we are told by the radical *Rivista Popolare* (Rome), by Bebel's Socialist organ *Vorwaerts*, by the *Humanité* of Mr. Jaurès, and by many English papers, is flatly denied by the influential and judicious *Rassegna Nazionale* (Florence) in a highly enthusiastic article. After dwelling upon what it styles "the heroic conduct of our soldiers" in Africa, this journal declares that it fills the soul of the people "with joy and patriotic pride." The battles fought with "an enemy exceeding in number" the Italian forces make "epic days" for Italy. These battles have "illuminated with rays of brilliant glory" "the heroism of officers, soldiers, and marines in their splendid cooperation." The soul of all Italy is at unison on this point, declares the *Rassegna*, and it pours forth the following ecstatic phrases:

"In this dazzling revival of national pride, in this new-born consciousness of our strength, in this sharp and bloody school of warfare, of patriotism and self-sacrifice, of discipline and heroism, the soul of all Italy becomes like a weapon tempered anew, and now stands sponsor, stronger than ever, for our African campaign. Yes, it was our duty to descend upon that extreme fringe of the African coast, as yet unoccupied. Our interests, political and economic, beckoned us thither, we were called by the past and by the future. We were compelled to take this step unless we were willing to lose the opportunity while we were not as yet enclosed by a circle of steel, unless we would give up our position as a Great Power, a Mediterranean Power with a future before us. We were compelled to take this step even tho the prize were merely an arid sand-bank, a barren waste of land, whose acquisition should cost the greatest sacrifices of men and treasure. Blest be this undertaking, because it has renewed our consciousness of what we are, because it has caused us to lift our heads in facing each other and the outside world, because it has revealed to us the valor, the preparedness, the wonderful might of our fighting men by land and sea."

ARABIAN NIGHTMARE.

"The smoke streamed from the bottle, and took the form of a genie of frightful aspect, who cried, '*Your last hour is come!*'"—(Arabian Night's Entertainment.)

—*Rire* (Paris).

The tone of this article changes to one of indignation against those who have spoken harshly of Italy and the Italians in the African affair, and the writer exhorts his enthusiastic countrymen who are applauding the war to treat such attacks with contempt. He says:

"What matters the furious and disgraceful campaign carried on by a large number of foreign journals, who have made themselves mouthpieces of that string of lies with which in Turkey public opinion is stultified. They turn our victories into Turkish victories, announcing every day a defeat of the Italian forces with thousands left dead on the field, and depicting as a murderous atrocity, as a slaughter of the innocents, our painful but necessary repression of the Arab revolt."

But the saddest thing is that calumniators of the Italian Army are found even in Italy itself, altho the mass of the Italian people are in perfect accord with Giolitti and the Government. Thus we read:

"But the calumniators, the enemies of Italy, are not only to be found outside the confines of our country. The marvelous unanimity of the Italians, which extends through all divisions of party politics, all regions and classes of the land, is disturbed by a small but factious minority. All, in the name of the country, are united on the subject of our African campaign, from the king to the priest, from the minister to the workingman. The reserves rushed to the colors from every section of the land, and men of all parties responded joyfully to the appeal of their fatherland."

The result of this patriotism and willing acceptance of military service has been a real capture of Tripoli, as announced by King Victor Emanuel. As for the critics:

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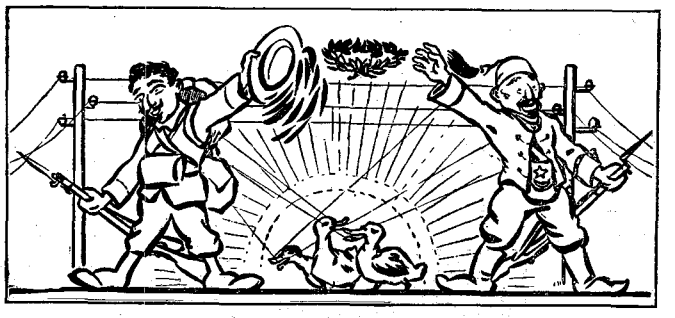
"By good fortune our country, which has accepted with noble impetuosity the opportunity for self-sacrifice yielded by the war, the country which labors, which pays, which gives its own sons to Italy, which asks for nothing in return excepting tranquillity, order, and liberty, which devotes its every energy to this glorious national undertaking, pays no attention to the insensate and parricidal workings of those who oppose the African enterprise. It looks upon such people with disgust and contempt. The greatest order and quiet have marked the combination of the reserves with the regular army, ever fresh demonstrations of enthusiasm have encouraged the troops embarking for Africa, and the decree of the King, declaring that Tripoli and Cyrenaica have been placed under the full and absolute sovereignty of Italy, has been received by the people with acclamation."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

LARGESSE FOR INDIA

GEORGE V. AND GEORGE III. seem destined to appear in history in vivid contrast in their treatment of disaffected colonies. If George III. had visited America and held a sort of "durbar" in Boston, granting the chief requests of the colonists, giving millions for education, releasing political prisoners from jail, and handing out favors right and left, perhaps our history might have been different. That is the program the later George is pursuing in India, and it will interest the former colonies on this side the Atlantic to watch the success of his experiment. We read in the press dispatches that George V. will devote about $1,600,000 to promote popular education, will remit debts due to real poverty, release prisoners, grant half a month's pay to native soldiers and non-commissioned officers, and make native officers and men eligible for the Victoria Cross. The capital is also removed from Calcutta to Delhi (the old capital of the Moguls), and Bengal will be reunited into one province. Its division, when Curzon was viceroy, pleased the Mohammedans, but exasperated the Hindus, and is responsible for the wide-spread bitterness and agitation which have prevailed. The new arrangement, we read, is a modification of the partition, one leading feature being the reunion of the Bengali-speaking divisions.



LATEST NEWS FROM TRIPOLI.

The Italians are victorious everywhere, and the Turks everywhere else. —*Rire* (Paris).

In a brilliant article written just before the Durbar and printed in *The Nineteenth Century and After* (London), Mr. Saint Nihal Singh, the well-known native Sikh journalist, declares that the natives expect the King to do something for them in return for their hospitable expenditure. They wish, he says, "to get their money's worth" from their royal guest. Hence we read:

"The demands for 'Coronation boons' are being so insistently made by educated Indians, and all the functions in connection with the Delhi Durbar have been so fashioned along Oriental lines by the British officials, under the guidance of Sir John Hewett, in charge of the committee which has arranged the details of the great pageant, that it is extremely unlikely that the King will content himself with merely dispensing customary grants, such as conferring titles on a few Englishmen and Indians, and setting free some convicts. It does not need much of a prophet to foretell that his Majesty is sure to commemorate his visit to India by granting some favor big enough to be associated with the epoch-making character of his tour."

On the other hand, there are those who have no respect for England or its monarch, and Mr. Singh describes a group of Hindus discussing the Durbar as follows:

"They would have made fine specimens in a living anthropological collection; but their faces and figures were not half so interesting as their talk, which centered around the King's visit to their native land—a topic which, on account of the uniqueness of the event, had pushed all other subjects into the background with the Indians abroad and at home. They spoke directly, curtly, vehemently—as if they had made up their minds.

"One said: 'Their Majesties are going to have the time of their lives while in India.'

"Another added: 'At our expense.'

"The third remarked: 'And the Motherland already has been bled to death.'

"The fourth called attention to the fact: 'India is now suffering from famine.'

"The fifth sarcastically rejoined: 'But the British officials say there is no famine in Hindustan—the late rains have removed the last vestige of scarcity.'

"The shifty-eyed one capped this statement by saying: 'Remember that all the *tamashas* (empty shows) that the English have had at the expense of our country were held when famines were despoiling our land. Lord Curzon's glorious Durbar took place when India was acutely suffering the pangs of starvation.' "

On this conversation Mr. Singh comments as follows:

"The dialog reproduced verbatim expresses the opinions of the extreme wing of these men in its naive irreverence. In one word, these people do not believe that any good can spring from the King's visit to India, and that, on the contrary, the Delhi Durbar will do Hindustan positive harm, by diverting into a meaningless show public funds which the country can ill afford to disburse for such a purpose and could utilize to better advantage if applied to reducing taxation, increasing educational facilities for the children of the soil, and bettering sanitation in the Peninsula."

Mr. Singh thinks, however, that solid benefits might accrue

VICTOR EMANUEL—"Give me that box." V. E.—"I'm going to take it by force." ALI—"Now try it!" —*Floh* (Vienna).

ITALY'S BOX OF TROUBLE.

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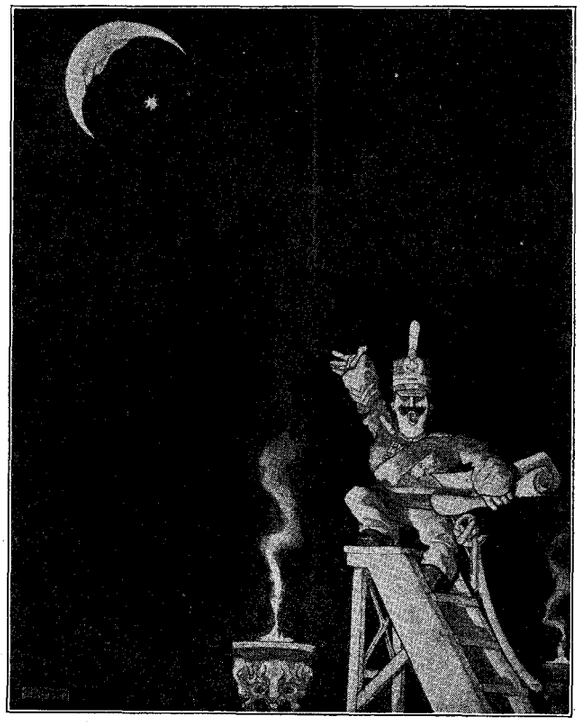
EAST AND WEST MEETING AT PORT SAÏD.

This group on the *Medina* shows King George and Queen Mary on their way to India. Seated at the Queen's left is Kiamil Pasha, Grand Vizier of Turkey, while at the King's left towers the commanding figure of Lord Kitchener. At the King's right, in order, are the Khedive of Egypt, Crown Prince Zia-ed-din, of Turkey, the Duke of Teck, Prince Mohamed Ali Pasha, and Gen. Sir Reginald Wingate, Sirdar of Egypt. The group is significant in showing the good feeling between Turkey and England at this time.

to India from the King's visit, if he took the right course. Some very good hints to the Indian Office as to the way in which a native views the needs of his country, and the opportunity King George now has of meeting them, are thus sketched:

"In view of all this, students of Indian economics are united in feeling that the boons which the average Indian will esteem most from the hands of his Majesty will be an appreciable cut in the land revenue, a reversion to the method of collecting taxes in corn instead of in cash, or, at least, a relaxation of severity in the methods of the revenue collectors. Unless native agency is employed in the higher grades of government services to a much larger extent than at present, the army expenditure materially reduced by decreasing the strength of British soldiers garrisoned in India, and distinctly Imperial charges transferred from the Indian to the London exchequer, the King, it is claimed, will be unable to reduce the burden on Indian agriculturists, especially in view of the increasingly diminishing revenue from the sale of opium to China. Official authorities invariably controvert the Indian charge that the ryot bears more of the brunt of the burden of taxation than he should, and, as the matter has not progressed beyond the stage of discussion, and because of the official influence upon the mind of the King during his Indian tour, one naturally can not look for a material decrease in the land-revenue rate. His Majesty, also, can not change the hearts of the petty officials who represent him in the Indian villages, merely by issuing a mandate."



PER ASPERA AD ASTRA.

VICTOR EMANUEL—"I hereby proclaim the Tripolitan part of the crescent an Italian province." —*Kladderadatsch* (Berlin).

INSURING BRITISH WORKERS

INTENSE EXCITEMENT has been roused throughout London, and indeed the whole British Isles, by the passing of a bill decreeing the enforced insurance of employees, including servants. The measure originated with the Chancellor, was hurried through the Commons and, as the latest dispatches inform us, passed the Lords and now becomes law. The main provisions of the Chancellor's bill are as follows: the State is to deduct from the income of all who earn less than $800 per annum a certain amount for state insurance. School-teachers and members of the Army and Navy are exempt. The standard deduction will be 8 cents a week from a man's wages and 6 cents from a woman's. The deduction, however, will be only 6 cents from a man's wages, when his earnings do not exceed 60 cents a day; when they do not exceed 48 cents, 4 cents will be deducted, and 2 cents when his wages are not over 36 cents a day. Employers will contribute 6 cents a week and the State 4 cents. The benefits to be enjoyed include medical attendance and maintenance during sickness, and a pension for those permanently disabled. Those out of employment are also to be provided with a pension for fifteen weeks, provided their condition is not due to a strike.

A large section of the English

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press is loud in its denunciation of Mr. Lloyd George's bill, and very characteristic is the following utterance of opposition on the part of the London *Outlook*, which calls itself Imperial, and speaks in the tone of a Conservative organ in defense of the rights of servants:

"All such compulsory deductions carry an idea of punishment. They are an arbitrary docking of a man's wage and of his cherished liberty to spend it as he pleases. The healthy servant-girl who would prefer to help her mother, but is compelled to insure for the benefit of some one else less healthy than herself, whom she knows nothing about, is punished. The hand made to punish her is that of her mistress; and this is fatal."

"The defects of the bill" and "its immense unpopularity with servants" is the theme of the London *Daily Mail's* vituperation. This Independent Unionist, and practically Conservative, newspaper, speaking of the revolt of the servants, their meetings and demonstrations, remarks:

"Mistresses will be compelled to act as collectors of a tax which is universally detested. The interference with the home, which is the most odious feature of the bill, remains. Nor is there any guaranty that the 'benefits' will be worth the money. An army of officials is still to be created to prey upon her wages. No wonder that she is up in arms with the whole country on her side."

Speaking of the way in which this "muddled and unsatisfactory measure" was hurried through the House under the guillotine, the Conservative London *Morning Standard* says:

"Mr. Lloyd George, like the French kings before the Revolution, holds his *lit de justice*, and Parliament is required to pass his ordinances without further question. This is simply administrative despotism, a mode of arbitrary government which makes a mockery of the forms of the Constitution. The parliamentary ceremonial is merely comic in the circumstances, and might almost as well be abandoned."

"Do servants want the insurance scheme?" asks the London *Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette*. "We have sometimes wondered whether anybody wants it," and it proceeds to say:

"When women descend to organizing a meeting to shout 'We sha'n't pay,' our experience tells us that they won't pay. The Chancellor is a married man—the thought has doubtless occurred to him."

Speaking further for the Opposition, the London *Spectator* suggests that the Lords would perhaps do well to propose a referendum and let the people decide about accepting a bill of which this writer says that it "is in a desperate muddle," and that "in all probability it will now pass the wit of man to put it straight," and we are told:

"It remains for the Lords to determine whether, in the very exiguous time allowed to them, they can do anything to straighten out the bill, or whether they will be obliged to adopt the plan which we have already strongly urged upon them—a plan which we are delighted to see has received the indorsement of *The Times*—of referring the bill to the country and asking whether they really want 'The National Insurance Bill, 1911,' to come into operation, or whether they would not rather wait till a better and more workmanlike scheme can be presented to them."

"One thought that the Chancellor, Mr. Lloyd George, had done his best as a variety artist in Parliament," remarks the Conservative London *Saturday Review*, but "the feeling, however, was premature." Then follows a fierce onslaught on the Welsh Minister for the crudeness of his bill, and the "wild and reckless manner" in which he railroaded it through the houses. To quote the words of this editorial:

"One really sometimes has doubts whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer has under the strain of recent events lost all rational power of judgment. . . . The explanation appears to be that this is the only kind of legislation compatible with the Chancellor's romantic temperament. It is this kind of wild-cat procedure that is the chief factor in the change in the public opinion which the last few months has brought. The British are a business people, and they are beginning to think that you can pay too much for the joy of watching a Celt in a passion."

The London *Times* thinks this bill is merely the stormy petrel and presages the deadly tempest which is gathering and will fall on the devoted heads of the Liberal Ministry. Speaking of "the gigantic meeting at Albert Hall held to protest against the provision of the Insurance Bill relating to servants," this great Independent organ declares that "'We won't pay' was the battle-cry, and every one who understands mistresses and servants knows that they will not." Further on we read:

"The domestic revolt is only one sign of the troubles ahead. There are many others, and it is no longer possible to disguise the fact that the bill has become a political embarrassment of which members of all parties are more or less acutely conscious. Liberals know that, if the scheme is workable at all, the present hostility manifested toward it, whether that be thought great or small, will be enormously increased as soon as it comes into operation. At present the benefits are at least seen in the air and realized by hopeful imaginations, while no one is conscious of the payments. But when the act comes into force it will be the payments of which they are conscious, while the benefits remain in the air and recede from view. No one can ever have supposed that this would be popular, but the hostility or dissatisfaction displayed beforehand in so many quarters makes the prospect far more serious than it was once thought to be. And all the unpopularity will be visited on the Government."

The Liberal London *Daily Chronicle*, however, laughs at such fears and forebodings, and is "well convinced that when the bill has been for some little time in operation, the present opposition to it among certain classes will disappear as froth." This editorial proceeds:

"Its great benefits will have settled down in the experience of homes throughout the country. . . . The threatened resistance of mistresses and maids may be awaited without serious perturbation."

Speaking very scornfully of "the shriek of 'servant tax'" the Liberal Manchester *Guardian* calls the conduct of the protesters "preposterous," and tells how many advantages this bill gives to employees. Thus we find among these "advantages" the following:

"It has been asserted that many servants in comfortable homes do not want the sickness allowance; their mistresses look after them when they are ill and their wages go on as before. This will be within the experience of most people in comfortable circumstances; for short periods, at any rate, no one would think of withdrawing her wages from a maid who was unable to work. Under the new clause those servants who choose, and whose circumstances enable them to do so, may elect to take the equivalent of sickness benefit in the form of a pension or superannuation payment. The medical benefit—*i.e.*, free medical attendance and drugs—will go on as before, because the mistress must get something for her share of the premiums paid in on the servant's account."

The Liberal London *Westminster Gazette* states with point and finality the advantages of the bill, and claims that it is generally popular, observing:

"Mr. Lloyd George's bill is one for the compulsory insurance of all employed persons. Wherever you find a person, man or woman, whose earnings do not exceed a certain amount, and when such a person has an employer, then the bill enacts that employer and employed shall both contribute so much per week, and to the amount thus contributed the State adds a certain proportion when the money comes to be spent in the form of benefits. Now, there are various objections taken to this scheme. There are some who, like the Socialists, object to the worker being made to pay any part of the cost of insurance. There are others who object to the employers being made to contribute. There are some who regard the whole scheme with dislike, and object to any State-aided or controlled scheme of insurance at all. But after six months of discussion we have no hesitation in saying that Mr. Lloyd George's scheme holds the field, and that, apart from details, it has been accepted by public opinion."

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OUR STRUGGLE WITH THE GERMS

THE SEARCH for methods of attaining immunity from infectious disease would probably not have been undertaken if nature herself had not pointed out the way. She confers immunity on certain persons, and if we can only find out how she does it, our problem is evidently solved. Why do not such diseases as diphtheria, typhoid, or pneumonia last indefinitely or become "chronic"? They "run their course," as we say; if the patient does not die he gets well; there is no danger that he will have the disease all his life, altho some of the results may of course be permanent. And not only does he recover, but he becomes immune either for all time or for a little; he can not contract the same disease immediately again. These facts, tho only partially explained, have been the physiologist's guide in his efforts to learn from nature how to acquire and bestow this freedom from disease. In *Harper's Magazine* (New York, December), Dr. Henry Smith Williams discusses and describes some of the most recent of those efforts and their often remarkable results. We read:

"The bald facts just stated are familiar and indisputable enough. But how explain them? Why should not the germs that once find comfortable and hospitable lodgment in the body of a given patient continue to thrive indefinitely, so long as the patient lives? The germs themselves retain vitality enough. If ever so few of them are transferred to the body of another individual, they multiply abundantly; whereas if they had remained in the body of their original host, who is now acquiring 'immunity,' they must have perished miserably, leaving no issue. But why?"

DR. HENRY SMITH WILLIAMS.

Each of us, he says, may have in his blood five different antidotes for every germ disease to which he is immune.

The earliest clue was Metchnikoff's discovery of the ability of the white blood-corpuscles to capture and destroy invading germs. The next was that, even without their aid, clear blood-serum is often able to kill noxious bacteria. Again, we may be able to neutralize the poison generated by the germs even when we can not get at them. To quote further in substance:

"Let us assume the case of a patient into whose blood-stream a portion of the poison generated by a colony of diphtheria bacilli has been secreted. This poison appears to be a sort of ferment. As it comes in contact with the tissues it sets up an abnormal action that disorganizes the functioning, causing the phenomena of fever, and, if not combated, ultimately so deranging and destroying the tissues as to cause the death of the patient. But as this ferment is an invisible secretion, known only by its effect, it is obvious that it can not be combated either by the phagocytic functioning of the leucocytes or the germ-destroying (bactericidal) property of the blood-serum.

"Stated otherwise, it is no longer the destruction of a bacillus that is in question in the main blood-channels, but the antagonizing of an invisible poison dissolved in the blood.

"Every one knows that a way has been found to counteract this poison; and perhaps most readers associate the remedy with the name of the famous German, Dr. Behring, who first produced the antitoxin that has robbed diphtheria of a large measure of its former terrors in the eye of the physician.

"But it perhaps is not so generally known that the antitoxin thus produced, which acts so effectively when injected into the system of a patient suffering from diphtheria, has no power whatever to kill or injure the diphtheria germs themselves. On the contrary, these germs actually grow and thrive when placed in a tube of antitoxin!

"But the case is quite different in such a disease as cholera, where the disease-germs enter the blood, and in the main carry their poison in their bodies instead of secreting it. Here an antitoxin proper would not be sufficient. We must have an antidote that will kill and remove the germs themselves.

"This is, of course, precisely the function of the leucocytes. But the new studies showed that the work of removing the bodies of noxious bacteria is not left to the unaided efforts of the phagocytes. Reference has already been made to the development of chemicals in the blood (bactericides) that kill the germs; it was presently discovered, largely through the investigations of Professor Pfeiffer, that the blood-serum may contain chemicals that not only kill the noxious bacteria, but actually dissolve or digest them.

"Substances that produce this important effect are called bacteriolysins. The action of these antibacterial agents is obviously quite different from the action of antitoxins. Antitoxins and bactericides are therefore distinct tho allied agents, serving complementary functions in the fight against the noxious bacteria.

"Antitoxins, bactericides, and bacteriolysins are sometimes spoken of as antibodies, and their various antidotal functions are pretty clearly defined. There are other chemicals, however, that may be coincidentally formed in the body cells and secreted into the blood-serum in response to the attack of the disease-germs that serve a somewhat more obscure purpose. These are the so-called agglutinins — chemicals so named because they possess the peculiar property of causing the bacteria that stimulate their production to clump together in masses (agglutinate) instead of moving about independently.

"That the agglutinins serve a useful purpose in the fight against the noxious germ we can not doubt, but as yet we do not know just what that useful purpose is.

"In the mean time, however, study of the agglutinins is of great aid to the physician in the diagnosis of disease. Thus, if a small portion of blood-serum of a person suffering from typhoid fever is added to a culture of typhoid-fever germs, the bacteria quickly become clumped together, or agglutinated; but this does not happen in the presence of serum of an individual in health. This test—which bears the name of the French physician Widal—is a valuable aid in the diagnosis of a suspected case of typhoid fever.

"But now came a series of new observations that brought the leucocyte again to the fore. The observations were made by an English army surgeon, Dr. (now Sir) Almroth Wright.

"Studying the blood of typhoid patients microscopically, he noted that white blood-corpuscles will sometimes ingest the typhoid bacilli very sparingly, at other times with seeming avidity. From this he drew the conclusion that there is a *something* in the blood, which may be present in less or in greater quantity, which renders the bacilli more susceptible to the attacks of the phagocytes. To this something he gave the name opsonin, a word coined from a Greek derivative signifying 'to make palatable.'

"There has been some question as to whether the effect of the opsonins is explicable as having made the phagocytes more voracious, or as making the bacteria more susceptible. Metchnikoff and his followers were disposed to take the view that the opsonin stimulates the leucocytes; but the opinion of Wright, which has the balance of authority, is that the direct action of the opsonin is exerted on the bacteria."

Opsonins, as has already been noticed in these columns, are specially valuable from the fact that their relative activity furnishes an index of a person's resistant qualities to a given germ. A person may even have a high "opsonic index" to

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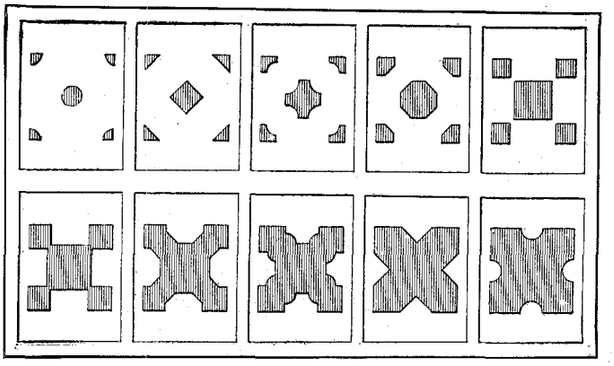
diphtheria and a low one to tuberculosis, being nearly immune to the former and susceptible to the latter. In recapitulation Dr. Williams tells us:

"In conclusion, we may summarize the findings of modern science as to the real meaning of immunity in some such terms as these: A person is immune to any given disease when his blood-serum contains normally, or has had developed in it artificially, a series of specific chemicals which, when called into action by the intrusion of the disease-germs, are able, acting jointly, (1) to neutralize the poison generated by the germs (*antitoxins*); (2) to kill the germs themselves (*bactericides*); and to remove them altogether partly by (3) dissolving them (*bacteriolysins*) and partly by (4) *agglutinating* and (5) *opsonizing* them so that they readily fall prey to the white blood-corpuscles that are always present in the blood.

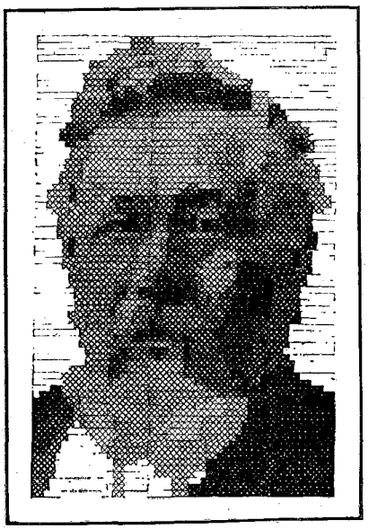
"For each specific disease-germ, then, there may be at least five antidotes in the system. It follows that the individual who is immune to a score of well-known germ diseases would have in his blood-serum at least a hundred different chemicals whose presence there is meaningless, so far as we know, except as an anticipatory guard against the attack of the disease-germs."



ELEMENTS THAT MAY COMBINE TO FORM THE HUMAN FACE.
By telegraphing these characters, pictures can travel by wire.

A NEW WAY TO SEND PICTURES BY WIRE

IT HAS BEEN possible for some time to send photographs by wire with great accuracy and some speed, wherever the necessary apparatus exists. Such transmission has for a year or so formed part of the regular Paris service of an enterprising London journal. Suppose, however, that a reporter finds himself at a country telegraph station and desires to send to his paper a picture of some kind in connection with his story—a portrait, or the photograph of some building or locality. He is evidently no better off than he would have been a century ago. A recent process, however, the invention of a French engineer named Mortier, would make it possible for him to send his picture over a single wire, with the aid of the ordinary telegraphic instruments—or rather, it would enable him to telegraph data from which the picture could be built up at the receiving station. This process is described by R. Bounin in *La Nature* (Paris, November 11), where we read:



PORTRAIT OF PRESIDENT FALLIÈRES BUILT UP BY THE MORTIER PROCESS.

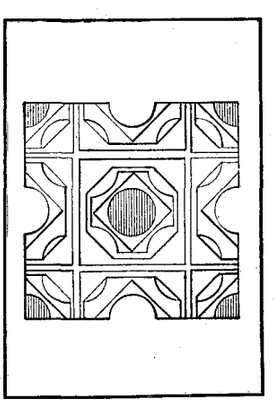
"Mortier's process . . . requires neither costly and delicate apparatus nor any peculiar installation, nor a special wire. It will work anywhere, using under normal conditions the existing telegraphic plant of the smallest localities and without the least interference with its ordinary administration.

"What was necessary to obtain this result? First, to take up in a new form one of the original conceptions of Charles Cros, about 1869—the translation of images into a series of numbers, then to give to the symbolic numerical text a form that will make it transmissible by all telegraphs, with or without wires. Finally, to effect a typographic reconstruction of the image. . . . . .

"The first thing to do is to cut the picture up into tiny squares, each one of which has the tone of the part of the image in which it is situated, which tone is represented by a conventional figure serving for its telegraphic transmission. But this process, which has the inconvenience of being slow and uncertain, has been happily replaced by Mr. Mortier by the following, which may be called automatic:

"The picture to be transmitted is first printed in an enlarged form susceptible of easy analysis. . . . This analytic print has two valuable properties—first, it is naturally cut up by a grillage of fine lines; secondly, the squares do not appear as more or less gray or transparent elements whose tone can not be evaluated numerically, nor as groups of points whose light-value can be stated in numbers only after a laborious measurement, but rather as black silhouettes against a white ground or *vice versa*, of forms so diversified as to embrace an extended scale of shades and so striking as to be identified at sight. Their geometric types, to the number of ten, are grouped in the illustration [opposite]. . . . . .

"These expressive figures arise spontaneously in the course of the manipulations, simple enough, that turn out the analytic proof. By what artifices has it been possible so to discipline the actinic force of the light that it shall express its own tonalities in characters more discernible than figures? The zoned cellular transparency, a simple sheet that has been placed in the printing-frame between the original negative and the sensitive paper, before the printing of the analytic proof, operates this miracle by itself alone. At first sight this transparent sheet shows a simple marking in squares, but under the microscope the appearance of the network gives place to an arrangement of square cells of complex structure. In each the transparence varies from the center outward, not by insensible gradations, but by sudden steps. The illustrations, which show the appearance of a cell on a much amplified scale, have no less than eleven different flat tints occupying eleven distinct zones. The open or closed lines that bound these zones, and which bear the numbers from 1 to 10, reproduce exactly the typical outlines of the symbolic silhouettes of the preceding illustration.



A COMPLEX ELEMENT GREATLY ENLARGED.

"After the preparation of the print, the analysis of it amounts to no more than the simple reading of a page and the jotting down of the figures in order. . . . Moreover, in the extent of the image the same shade is generally repeated in several consecutive cells, and instead of using a series of identical figures it is simpler and shorter to dictate and write down a pair of figures, of which the first expresses the number of contiguous cells and the second their luminous quality. Thus 73, 42, and 95 signify respectively 7 points of intensity 3, and so on. . . . . .

"The image thus analyzed and translated into a series of figures transmitted by telegraph has only one more step to make before figuring in the columns of the journal for which it is destined. This last phase of the process is the typographic synthesis.

"To effect this reconstitution, it suffices to juxtapose in the order followed in the analysis, as shown by the figured text, prismatic types whose visible faces give to the eye the same sensation as the corresponding element of the original image."

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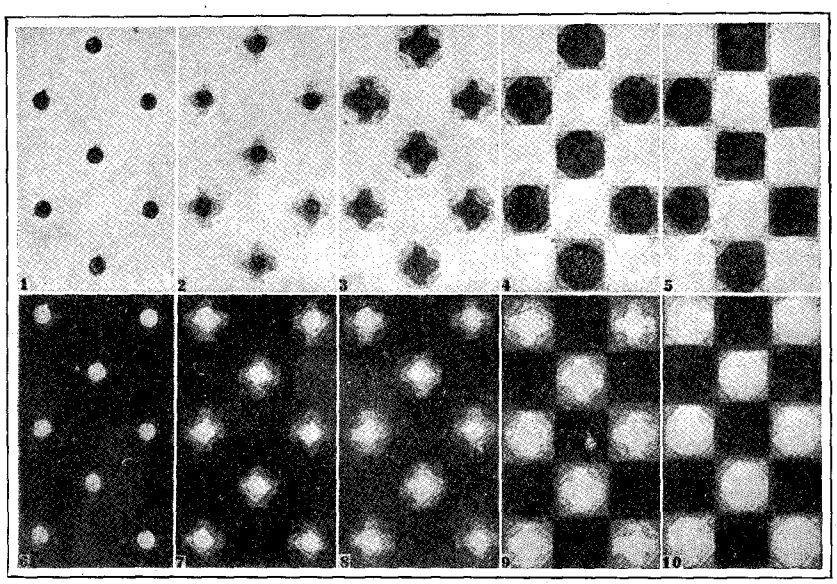
Types of this kind can now be cast by the typographic industry, we are assured, and the entire process, from the actual taking of the original photograph to its appearance in the paper, can be completed within a time demanded by modern newspaper service:

"The result is, as may be seen, fairly satisfactory and quite cheap; it may also be obtained in a short time. . . . The analysis, transmission, and synthesis require each about the same time, so that the microtypic plate is ready to be set up in the newspaper forms, at the receiving station, two or three hours after the photographic negative was taken at the sending station."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PRINTING IN CHINA

THAT THE ART of printing, first used in China, has not reached there the enormous vogue that it enjoys in Western lands is doubtless due to the great number of characters required. The Chinese printer, however, does not ordinarily use the 41,000 characters of Kang Hsi's dictionary; he finds that for practical purposes a mere 7,000 will do. Deputy Consul-General John K. Davis, of Shanghai, writing recently in *Daily Consular and Trade Reports* (Washington) tells us that with a font of this size the Chinese printer, in the course of setting up a book, will frequently find that he lacks a dozen or so unusual characters, a difficulty which he readily meets by having the missing symbols hand-cut on blank type by skilled engravers, who, thanks to the old wood-block system, are to be found in practically every town in China. We read further:



BITS OF A PHOTOGRAPH ANALYZED FOR TRANSMISSION.
Ten geometric types ready for the telegraph-operator.

"It has been found by the Shanghai type-founders that the electrotype process is the most successful for the manufacture of matrices. By this method the character is first cut in some suitable wood as a mold, which is placed in a depositing trough containing copper solution, and left for several days until there is a deposit of copper thick enough to be polished off and fixt in a brass holder. . . . Characters made by this means possess more of that caligraphic excellence so dear to the Chinese than do those cast in matrices cut by steel punches.

"Among the firms in Shanghai manufacturing type and matrices may be mentioned the Presbyterian Mission Press (American), the Commercial Press (Chinese), and the Methodist Publishing House (American). It is stated that the type in the cheaper fonts, such as are sold by unscrupulous dealers to the printer who is not yet expert in such matters, is manufactured almost entirely of lead, and after a short period of service becomes useless. The type turned out by the American mission presses and other reputable firms is composed of lead, antimony, and tin in proper proportions, and is said to give entire satisfaction.

"Altho practically all Chinese newspapers and books on modern topics are now printed from movable metal type, books pertaining to old China, such as the Confucian classics and their commentaries, are still produced by the time-honored method of printing from wooden blocks. Among the reasons why the Chinese prefers his books of this nature printed in the old way are his naturally strong conservatism, the peculiar charm and artistic softness of the pages printed from blocks, which the modern books from metal presses do not have, and the fact that the new-style volumes lack that peculiar odor imparted in the older method by the lampblack-vegetable oil ink with which they are printed, an odor which, altho extremely disagreeable to Occidental nostrils, is inseparably associated in the Chinese mind with good literature.

"Photolithography is also being used to some extent for the reproduction at moderate cost of rare and hitherto almost unprocurable Chinese works. This process finds favor chiefly for the reason that it so perfectly reproduces the characters beautifully written by famous Chinese literati of former days as to give each volume that peculiar individuality prized by the native scholar."

ANIMALS OF PREHISTORIC AFRICA

EVIDENCE that certain animals had been domesticated by man as far back as the early stone age appears on the smooth cliffs of the Atlas Mountains, between Morocco and Algeria, in the shape of recognizable prehistoric pictures of animals—the work of some intellectual ancestor of Landseer or Bonheur. An account of these appears in the *Bulletin* of the French National Society of Acclimation, and in addition we have interesting observations on some of the existing domestic animals of this North-African region. Our translation is from an abstract that is given in *La Nature* (Paris), where we read:

"At Aïn-Sefra, on the Algero-Moroccan frontier in the neighborhood of Tioût, the grayish-red brecchias of the high plateaus of the Atlas range have preserved pictured representations of the animals of the early stone age. Primitive artists of this distant epoch have cut on these rocky walls, with an astonishing feeling for reality, African elephants, lions, leopards, hyenas, and gazelles of the long-necked Mohr type no longer seen except in the western Sahara. One of the most impressionistic of these figures is that of a prehistoric buffalo, the *Bos antiquus*, whose horns exceed in spread those of the Indian buffaloes best provided in this respect. Now these carvings agree perfectly, even in the smallest details, with the fossil remains that have been brought to light in this region, so one is surprized to find that at this period the buffalo was domesticated, since some of them are represented with pack-saddles. The species had already disappeared in the time of the Carthaginians and the Romans, who make no mention of it. The nature of the vegetation must then have been quite different from that of to-day, since the elephant would not have been able to find food in the scanty thickets that now cover the high table-lands of the Atlas. Farther away, in the south of Morocco, the designs of the same nature, found as far as Timbuctu, prove that besides the elephant, the rhinoceros and giraffe formed part of the local fauna. The traveler who communicates these observations to *The Field* adds that the camels of the Algero-Moroccan frontier tend to have a dusky coat; many black ones are seen. The tall goats with long legs and short, thick horns have little resemblance to the small, short goats of the negro villages, and the Berber dogs are of a very fine type that recalls what the extinct domestic dogs of the Canary Isles must have been. They are related to the collie and the Chinese chow dogs; their white hair, shaded off to a citrine tint, sets off their shining black eyes; the tufted tail is often carried on the back, and their ears, which in the Tunisian regions are upright, have a tendency to break, as with the collies in Morocco. They are friendly to animals, but aggressive toward men. Around Figuig are met large droves of long-legged swine like those formerly common in Ireland."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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THE REASON FOR CITY WARMTH

THE FACT that the temperature is apt to be higher in large cities than in the neighboring rural districts has often been noticed, and it is generally ascribed to the great amount of artificial heat generated in the towns. In an article in *The Monthly Weather Review* (Washington, No. 39) George W. Mindling, an observer attached to the United States Weather Bureau, attributes this difference in temperature to the position of city buildings, their materials, and the results of drainage, rather than to the heat of fires and furnaces, which he thinks is relatively too slight to make any difference, and is also continually removed by the wind. In a previous paper Reginald P. Bolton, president of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, asserted before that body his belief that the enormous fuel consumption in New York had produced observable effects on the city's weather, lessening the number of very cold days, increasing the number of cloudless ones, decreasing the amount of rain, and lowering the humidity. The artificial heat in the city, according to Mr. Bolton, is sufficient to raise the air to a temperature about five degrees higher than it would normally have, over the entire area of the city and to a height of one mile. Mr. Mindling replies that these conclusions are not well founded. He writes:

"It is not the heat produced within the buildings, but the position of the buildings, that is chiefly accountable for the higher temperatures in the heart of cities. Contributory causes are to be found in the materials used in walls and pavements, the differences in drainage, and in the character of the surface. The position of buildings in a city obstructs the natural movements of the air, while the continued reflection of solar energy from walls and pavements rapidly increases the temperature in the spaces sheltered from the winds. In the cities water is quickly conducted away by means of drains, sewers, etc., so that the ground is quite effectually prevented from becoming wet, where it is not actually sheltered by buildings or pavements, while in the country the ground everywhere is well adapted to the absorption of the rain-water as a result either of tillage or of being covered with vegetation that checks the process of drainage. Consequently, when the sun appears, the increase in temperature is retarded by the process of evaporation in the country much more than in the city, due allowance being made for the sprinkling of the streets. A considerable part of the heat thus accumulated in the cities is not lost during the night for reasons stated further on, and the nights are, therefore, much cooler in the country, especially in clear weather. It is readily seen that the causes mentioned are most active during the summer, which accounts for the fact that the greatest differences in temperature are observed during that season. . . . . .

"If New York were in the form of a square about 18 miles in breadth, [the] average velocity [of the wind] would be sufficient to renew practically all the air over the city once each hour, or 24 times daily. Therefore the heating effect of combustion, on which Mr. Bolton relies to raise the temperature 4.94 degrees, would be but one twenty-fourth of that amount, or about two-tenths of a degree. But the city is not in the form of a square, and its position is such that the winds usually blow across it in the shortest direction. The city being about 6 to 9 miles wide (excluding water surfaces) and trending nearly northeast and southwest, it is crossed by the east, southeast, west, and northwest winds in such a manner that the air over it is renewed about two and a half times an hour, or 60 times daily on the average. Therefore, during the prevalence of these winds, which, according to the most reliable records, covers fully two-thirds of the time, the heating effect of combustion upon the temperature of the free air is one-sixtieth of 4.94 degrees, or somewhat less than one-tenth of 1 degree. It need only be suggested how insignificant this heating effect becomes under the influence of a strong northwest gale, such as generally precedes the principal cold waves of winter.

"Of course, the heat artificially produced is not lost to as great a degree in the spaces near the surface that are sheltered from the wind, but from the foregoing it is evident that the temperature of the free air can not be appreciably affected by the heat of combustion."

WHY ALL CAN NOT BE VEGETARIANS

THE GREAT OBSTACLE to the general adoption of a vegetable diet is not physiological or ethical or philosophical. It is economic. We can not all be vegetarians, because there are not vegetables enough in the world for us to eat; and, moreover, the surface of the earth, under present conditions and modes of culture, could not produce enough to feed us all. It could do so under ideal conditions; but these conditions seem now far from realization. These considerations, advanced against world-wide vegetarianism by Prof. Alonzo E. Taylor, of the University of Pennsylvania, in *The Popular Science Monthly* (New York, December), seem to rest on a different basis from the ordinary arguments on either side. Professor Taylor admits that a vegetable diet may physiologically fill all the requirements. It is quite as good as a meat diet, altho he will not admit that it is any better. But suppose we should all feel moved to adopt it? Professor Taylor puts and answers the question thus:

"Can the surface of the earth (for the fishes of the sea would have to be excluded) raise enough grain, fruits, nuts, and vegetables, added to dairy products, to meet the albumin needs of the present earth's population? Unhesitatingly it may be stated that the area of the earth's surface now under cultivation could not, with the present methods of agriculture, dependably produce enough plant albumin to meet the needs of the present population. Very large areas of the earth's surface at present produce only grasses, shrubs, and trees. Man can neither graze nor browse. At present these plants are consumed by cattle, goats, sheep, and swine, whose albumin is utilized in turn by man. It is through the mediation of these animals that the vegetation of enormous areas of land is made available for mankind. At present probably one-half of the albumin needs of mankind are met by animal albumin. To meet these needs with plant albumin and dairy products the world's production of grains and legumins would need to be doubled at the least. It is quite certain that this could not, with the uttermost efforts of the world's population, be dependably accomplished at present. It is possible that it might be accomplished, with the present methods on the present acreage of tillable soil, if no untoward manifestations of the elements occurred (such as severe winters, unseasonable frosts, floods, droughts, storms, excessive heat), with a dependable rain-fall in both time and space. But mankind would be yearly at the mercy of the elements."

To meet fully the needs of the growing population, four huge advances, the writer goes on to say, must be made—methods of cultivation must be intensified and revolutionized; conservation of water must be accomplished on a scale never before dreamed of; the ravages of plant diseases must be checked; and soil fertilization on a vast scale through microbic and electrochemical agencies must be carried on. This might, and probably would, quadruple our present yield. But, says Professor Taylor, for the present it is certain "that to place the human race upon the basis of ethical vegetarianism would be to expose the race to the mercy of nature, just as the vegetarian population of India is yearly at the mercy of the yield of grain." We read further:

"To dispense with the products of animal bodies would be a task trivial in comparison with the problem of feeding. With wools, cottons, linens, and the other plant fabrics, with metals and woods, all could be accomplished without great technical difficulties, were preconceptions once obliterated. From the standpoint of ethical vegetarianism, the wearing of fur, kid gloves, and leather shoes constitutes fratricide. The number of animal and bird lives sacrificed to-day for purposes of superfluous comfort and for compliance with the vanities of fashion makes a striking numerical showing contrasted with the number of animals slaughtered for the supply of food. The difficulties would lie in clothing the extremities of outdoor workmen; but the problem would be solved without difficulty in a world rich in inventive devices tho poor in large scientific conceptions.

"The results of the world-wide installation of vegetarianism to the sociological and economic institutions of the world need but to be sketched to be appreciated. The race of swine, as a

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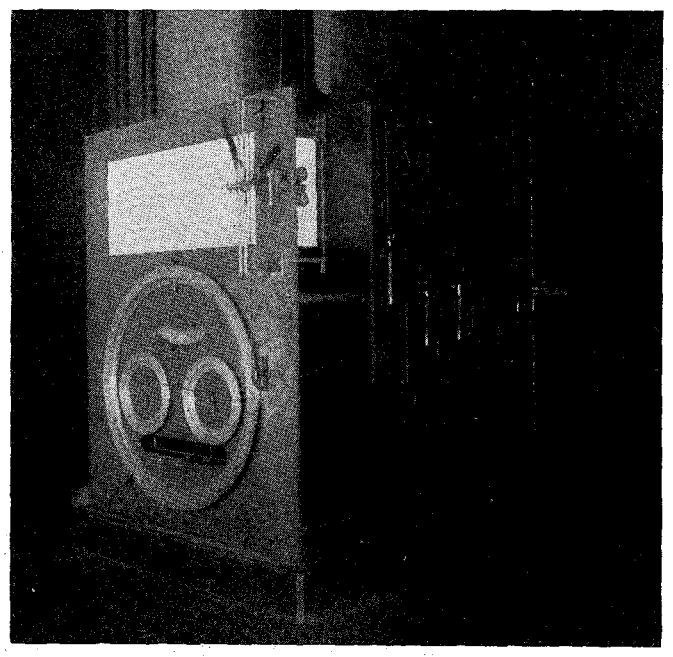
domesticated family, would be obliterated, and the number of cattle regulated by the requirements for dairy products. On the other hand, the number of horses would need to be augmented to meet the needs of enlarged agriculture; and the number of sheep to meet the increased demands for wool. The population of the world would tend to shift in latitude, and the commerce of the world would be revolutionized to meet the alterations in the currents and articles of trade. Fashions in dress and house furnishings would be strikingly changed. There is no need to dilate further upon these features. Man is to-day a beast of prey. Just as the whole map of biology would be changed in the day when 'the lion and the lamb shall lie down together,' so the whole face of civilization would be given transformed features in the time when man regards the animal as a brother and not as a prey. Man is a beast of prey because thus the preservation of existence is made easy; vegetarianism would make it difficult, and will therefore not be adopted. This carries its personal lesson: I, the vegetarian, must not be vain; because it is the meat-eating of my brother that makes vegetarianism possible to me."

A MACHINE TO FORETELL THE TIDES

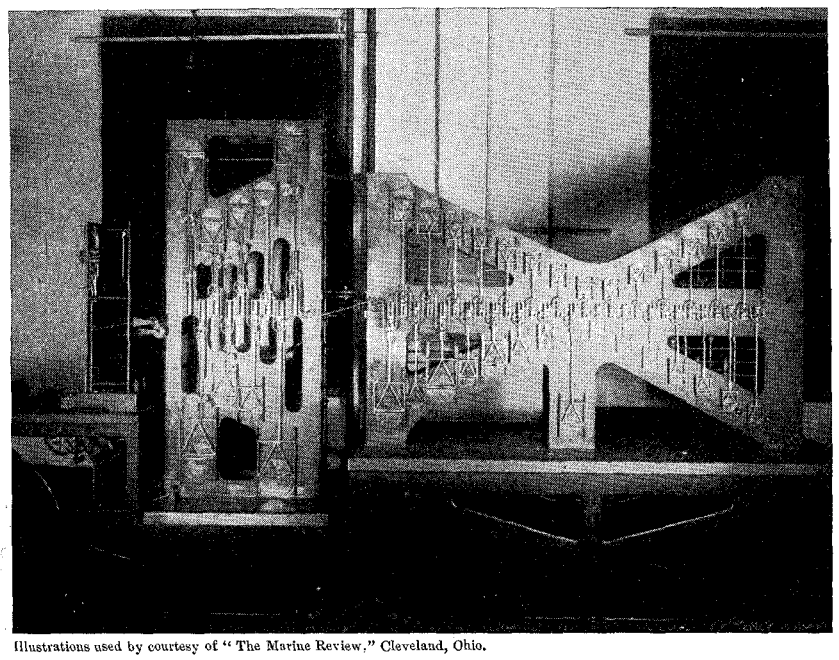
AFTER FOURTEEN years of experiment, a machine has been completed for the United States Government, which will predict the times of high and low water and its depth at each rise and fall as far ahead as may be desired. A single operator, by turning a crank, will now make a whole year's predictions for a given locality in less than eight hours—a result previously requiring a large force of computers laboring for months. This tidal computer is but one of a large class of calculating-machines, some of which are in daily use, while others, perfectly possible, are not made and used because they would not pay. The common adding-machine is an example of the former, while the tide-predicter would doubtless be classed with the latter if it did not happen that an advance knowledge of the state of the tides is highly important to navigators so that it pays to expend large sums on the means of obtaining it. We read in *The Marine Review* (Cleveland, Ohio):

"The book of tide-tables, which is issued each year by the Coast and Geodetic Survey, has always been based upon mathematical predictions. These predictions are founded upon averages obtained from gages which have recorded the time of high and low tide at about seventy of the principal ports of the world for a score or more of years back.



DIAL OF TIDE-PREDICTING MACHINE,

On which is indicated the height in feet and tenths, and the day, hour, and minute of future tides.



Illustrations used by courtesy of "The Marine Review," Cleveland, Ohio.

THE PREDICTING-MACHINE.

Side view, showing gears which represent the planetary influences.

"Originally the predictions were made by a force of mathematicians, and since such a system always gave rise to the possibility of personal error, it has always been the desire of scientists that such computations be made by machinery and thus gain nearly absolute accuracy.

"This year the desire will be realized, for within the past year the machine to accomplish such results has been completed and its test of eight months has proven satisfactory. It has come to within a few per cent. of accuracy, winning over its human competitors by at least 15 per cent., and not only turning out the time of high and low tide and the depth, but also tracing a curved line on paper which graphically illustrates the gradual rise and fall and the peculiarities incident to any one locality.

"It was this possible difference in the figures which suggested to Lord Kelvin, in 1874, the means to eliminate the personal error by constructing a machine which would make the computations. The Kelvin machine predicted the time of high and low water only. This was too limited for modern use, for in the rapid movement of present-day maritime affairs tidal information must contain much more than the mere time of high and low water to be of benefit. The principle upon which this machine was constructed proved, however, to be the foundation for the Survey's new machine.

"The new predicting-machine was completed during February, 1911, after fourteen years of experiment. The next book of predictions, soon to be issued for the coming year, will contain tables for the seventy principal ports of the world, the first to be turned out since the machine underwent its severe test for accuracy.

"To gain these results the machine is composed of nearly 300 wheels and pulleys grouped into 37 sets of gears. Each of these gears represents an influence affecting the tides, including the action of the sun, the moon, various other planets, and local conditions.

"For each of these conditions there has been an average made, based on a number of years of observation. When, therefore, predictions are to be made for any locality the gears are set to correspond with these averages.

"One operator only is necessary to turn out a year's predictions in from seven to eight hours. By simply turning a crank the gears will influence the indicators on the dials, thus marking the time of high and low water for each successive twelve hours during the year. Another dial will record the depth of water at each rise and fall of the tide, while, at the same time, a set of pens will trace the gradual rise and fall on time-graduated paper and indicate, as a check on the direct reading, the exact moment of high and low water. The curve representing this rise and fall of a year's tides will fill a strip of paper 380 feet long."

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AN AMERICAN PRIMA DONNA WINNING LONDON

IT IS A SMALL WAVE that purports to have floated Mr. Hammerstein into assured success. She weighs just a hundred pounds, and is a prima donna from America, who created another Tetrazzini furor when she sang *Gilda* in "Rigoletto" a fortnight or so ago. The opera was sung on Saturday night, and, as London has no Sunday papers, the critics had an extra twenty-four hours to reconsider, but they all burst forth in a pean of praise when Monday came. Miss Felicia Lyne is twenty, and in a night has become world-famous. The performance of "Rigoletto," says the London *Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette*, "established faith in the man, his efforts, and his artists." There is much of the Missourian in the Britisher, and, as this journal confesses, "with an impatience born of the restless spirit of the age, we were already half skeptical of the existence of the Great Unheard, alleged to have been hidden in the list of unknown artists, as we were doubtful of the popularity of anything but the spectacular aspect of the London Opera House productions." But—and here is the generous admission—"on both counts we have all been too hasty in our inward convictions." More:

"In as unobtrusive a manner as the most precise could desire, and in a time-honored opera in which a novel situation would be an impossibility, Mr. Hammerstein sprung a sensation upon the most hardened of his patrons.

"One has to go back to the first appearance of Mme. Tetrazzini in London to find a parallel to Miss Felicia Lyne's début in England on Saturday night. The house was sparse, and the audience was languid, as on that memorable occasion. The effect of the new singer's voice on the listless crowd was equally astonishing, and the triumph equally complete.

"That all London will go to the new opera-house to hear the new American prima donna is a natural sequence to Saturday's popular demonstration and to-day's pean of praise from the press. All the splendor and realism of 'Quo Vadis?' has indeed been a great attraction, but the drawing power of mere production fades before the magnetic influence of the personal equation in opera.

"In speaking of a voice and personality that have taken one so entirely by surprize—in fact, at a time when one was completely 'off-guard' so to speak—it is easy to overestimate the cause in recalling the effect. But there is no doubt that Mr. Hammerstein has brought forward one of the most beautiful voices London has ever heard.

"Miss Lyne is so young that one hesitates to foretell what she may accomplish in the near future. One can only say that her *Gilda* of Saturday was a rare delight to hear, and an equal pleasure to see. There is music in every note of her voice. There are ease and youthful freshness in its production, and there are in her picture of the *Jester's* little daughter a pictorial truth and naturalness which, if they have been equaled in recent years, memory fails to recall the occasion.

"'Place aux dames' alone relegates second place to the success achieved by Mr. Orville Harrold as the *Duke* on Saturday. The American tenor has sung several times since the season opened, but only in 'Rigoletto' has he met a part that exhibited the fine quality of his voice and the perfect ease and assurance of his platform manner."

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MISS FELICIA LYNE,

An American girl of twenty, who sang herself into fame in one night in London, in her second appearance on the operatic stage.

In Miss Lyne, says the London *Standard*, "Mr. Hammerstein has made a find which should go a long way to compensate him for any past disillusionments he may have suffered." It goes into the matter thus thoroughly:

"It is said that Miss Lyne had only once before appeared upon the operatic stage, and then in a much lighter and less exacting rôle than *Gilda*. If this is so, the young débutante would seem to belong to that very small community, the singers that are born rather than made—provided such singers exist. The repose, restraint, and unforced assurance of her performance were remarkable. She looked fifteen and not a day more—in fact, she was *Gilda* both in the flesh and in the spirit. Her address and bearing as she approached the garden seat previous to the delivery of the great aria—upon which the success of a prima donna stands or falls—were singularly natural and unaffected. Miss Lyne's inexperience of traditional ways and means went a long way to establish her in the good graces of the audience, more especially as her ignorance of the tricks of the stage was compensated by an intuitive sense of dramatic fitness. And when the opening staccato notes of 'Caro nome' floated out into the house not a few instinctively felt that they were in the presence of one who would most assuredly bear a hand in the making of operatic history. The freshness and purity of Miss Lyne's voice and the extraordinary ease with which she produces it, whether she is moving about the stage or otherwise, her finished portamento, the clearness of her scales, and the way in which—to employ a cricket metaphor—she hits the note plumb in the middle, are as unquestionable as startling.

"Miss Lyne's advent established the conviction that she is an artist who has inherited or contracted most of the operatic virtues and none of the vices, and, further, that a star of the first magnitude has appeared in the operatic sky—a star which in its course is destined to shine with ever-increasing brightness."

The New York *Sun* prints a dispatch from its correspondent in which the writer declares that "the young lady will have to invest in a big scrap-book to hold the clippings of what the London newspapers had to say about her." He goes on:

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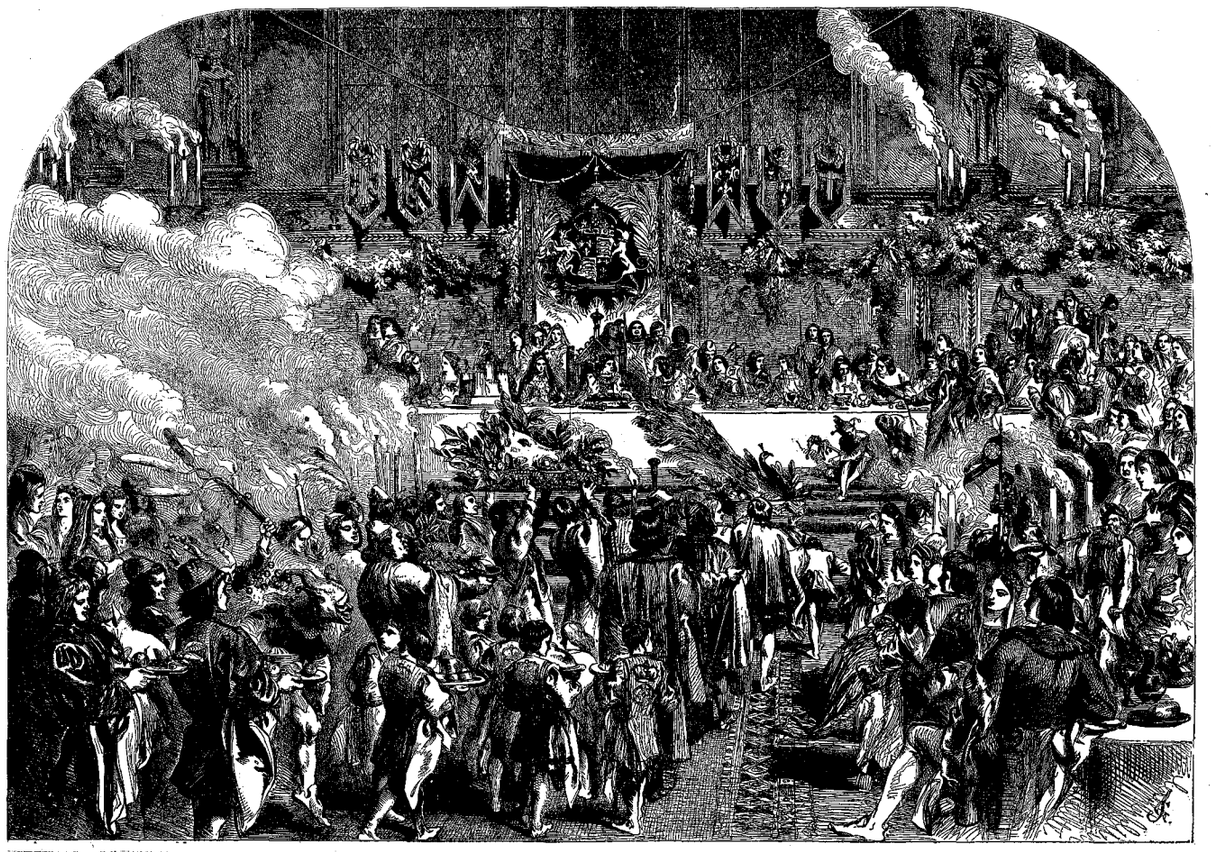

"CHRISTMAS IN WESTMINSTER."

This drawing by Sir John Gilbert represents the sort of illustration that graced the weeklies of a half-century ago. It is taken from *The Illustrated London News* of 1856, and, while purporting to depict a scene in the life of Henry VII., really embodies a mid-Victorian idea of the opulence and splendor of ancient days. The table is spread in the great hall which now hears only the talk of Parliament.

"She sang in the Sunday-night concert following her Saturday-night success, and is appearing again in 'Rigoletto' this evening. The eulogy of her concert singing was quite as generous as that produced by her first appearance. Of the début *The Morning Post*, a conservative newspaper popular with the upper classes, had this to say:

" 'Her voice is of rare beauty, for its tone is soft, round, and even, and its use, guided by the best principles of the vocal art, is perfect. In point of voice alone Miss Lyne takes her place in line with the great exponents of the legitimate school of singing.'

"*The Times*, which, like *The Post*, refrains from comment as to the possible effect of Miss Lyne's success on Mr. Hammerstein's fortunes, gave this indorsement:

" 'With a voice beautifully pure in quality and perfectly even throughout its entire range, she sang everything with a simplicity and natural grace which was immediately captivating.'

"*The Telegraph*, conservatively inclined also, goes a step further, however. Under the caption 'A Brilliant *Gilda*,' it says:

" 'Well, we have waited and we have seen. "William Tell" was galvanized into quite a good semblance of life. So too was "Norma." But this was as nothing when compared with the rejuvenation of "Rigoletto." . . . No doubt many who were present at the London Opera House on Saturday night had come as much out of curiosity to view the house as to see "Rigoletto." But at the final fall of the curtain there can have been few who came to scoff, as it were, who were not glad that they had remained to sing or shout the praises of the performances and, let us hope, of the opera.'

"Of Miss Lyne herself *The Telegraph's* critic wrote:

" 'In one second Miss Felicia Lyne, a débutante here, stept as *Gilda* straight into the hearts of her large public.' And again: 'With the voice of Melba-like clarity and purity and the skill in its use of a Tetrazzini, is it to be wondered at that Saturday's audience waxed enthusiastic to an entirely unusual degree, their applause frequently bursting forth during the actual course of the opera?' "

The new prima donna was born in Kansas City, but in interviews she speaks of Virginia as her home. She was educated for the musical stage in France. This *Sun* writer has also some interesting comment on the manner in which Mr. Hammerstein is winning:

"The London musical critics have been very chary of reference to the outcome of the operatic experiment of Mr. Hammerstein. Such occasional mention as has been made of this phase of the new opera company has shown a natural caution and a disposition to say the polite and well-wishing rather than the discouraging thing. But the impression created was that the venturesome Oscar had an uphill task to make London patronize another grand opera. London in this case means not only the contingent of lovers of classical music, but that all-powerful factor in expensive and high-class entertainment, London society.

"London society is Society with a big S. Where it goes others will follow. If it remains away the others or most of them may remain away also, even if deep down in their hearts they suffer disappointment in so doing. At the outset of his London experiment—for it was generally regarded as such and in greater degree than Hammerstein's Manhattan Opera House effort to give New York supplemental grand opera—Mr. Hammerstein heard all about London society and how necessary its sanction was to him from a purely business view-point. Probably from the first, certainly later on, he realized that he had powerful obstacles to overcome, obstacles that were sunken in the bed-rock of tradition, prejudice, and suspicion.

"It was figured out carefully for Mr. Hammerstein that he could not succeed. The figurers, many in his own profession, demonstrated to their own satisfaction at least that the new opera-house and what was to be produced there was conceived on a scale too expensive to justify hope of profit. Then there were the theories as to the conservatism of English people, and, among other theories, based in some instances on

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experience, but in most on an understanding of English character and temperament, Mr. Hammerstein tipped his cigar up or down, according to the degree of influence these things had on his mentality, and went on with what he had set out to do. His response to the arguments that failure was inevitable was that he intended to give London 'something different.' It was acknowledged after the opening night's performance of 'Quo Vadis?' that he had done so. But the acknowledgment pertained more to the character of the opera-house itself, the scenic effects, and a wonderfully trained chorus than to the main thing, the opera *per se*. Was it 'something different' in the sense of commanding superiority which many regarded as necessary to both artistic and financial success?

"'Rigoletto,' with Miss Lyne in the cast, completed the second week of the London Opera House season. The earlier audiences had been good in number and patronage was continued in a way that to the casual observer seemed satisfactory from the business standpoint. On the Saturday night when Miss Lyne made her hit the balconies and galleries were filled, but there was considerable empty space in the lower boxes and stalls or orchestra chairs. Perhaps London's devotion to week-end parties was responsible for the lack of patronage in the more expensive parts of the auditorium. It was a house of music-lovers, however. That was apparent soon after Miss Lyne had the opportunity of showing what she could do. The enthusiasm was tremendous, and the curtain was rung down on an initial stage triumph such as is seldom witnessed."

LONDON'S NEW CENSORSHIP TROUBLES

TWO OR THREE years ago Mr. Charles H. E. Brookfield, an English actor, produced an adaptation from a French play that one dramatic critic said "should knock a nail in the coffin of the censor." Instead, that or something else has made Mr. Brookfield a copartner in the censorship, the Lord Chamberlain having just appointed him "joint-reader of plays." Mr. Brookfield's play was called "Dear Old Charlie," and the gentleman thus affectionately celebrated "spent his time in intrigues with the wives of his dearest friends." The play, to be sure, was a farce, containing such matter for drama as usually furnishes forth this particular brand that is never regarded very seriously. Taken in connection with Mr. Brookfield's appointment to the censorship, however, his farce was made a strong argument against him by a whole theater full of people who paused between the acts of a play to resolve themselves into a public meeting and pass resolutions condemning the new appointment.

Even outside that public meeting the fear is exprest that "the worst features of the censorship may be continued, that unpleasantness and even suggestiveness in farce will be permitted, but 'discussion plays,' dealing with grave problems, be vetoed." Mr. Brookfield began his stage career in 1879, and has played almost everything from farce to Shakespeare, in association with such people as the Bancrofts, the Kendals, and Sir Herbert Tree. He is known as one of the wittiest men in London, besides being clever and popular. *The Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette* treats his appointment in the spirit of his dominant qualities:

"For example, if another play like 'Dear Old Charlie' should be written, he may be called on to overlook its sterling humor. Mr. Brookfield is a clever man, a witty man, a popular man. He is understood to be a capital hand at a practical joke. Considering the plays he has written, and the views he has recently exprest on the drama, it can not be supposed that he will do very much for the modern stage, either in keeping it back or pushing it forward. But as a practical joker he is in his right place as the very center of the Lord Chamberlain's latest bit of fun."

In the current number of *The National Review*, Mr. Brookfield publishes an article in which he declares that the golden age of the drama ceased in 1889, when "The Doll's House" was produced and the modern movement began. This is taken up as a particularly aggravating phase of the question of his appointment, since the modern school, including Shaw, Galsworthy, Barker, and others, own to the Ibsen influence and repudiate the school that flourished in Mr. Brookfield's "golden age." Mr. Bernard Shaw gave out some views to *The Observer* (London) when he was still waiting for a confirmation of the rumor of the new appointment, saying:

"After such a violently partizan pronouncement as that, one can hardly believe such an appointment has been made, unless it were a deliberate insult to public opinion. The other point is that Mr. Brookfield is the author of a play called 'Dear Old Charlie,' which figured conspicuously in the proceedings before the Special Committee on the Censorship, appointed at the instance of Mr. Robert Harcourt. It is not only an example of the kind of play which the Censor always licenses, in strong contrast to the plays which he does not license, but it also contains a scurrilous attack on Mr. Granville Barker, and the fact was used to show the insincerity of the contention that the Censor protects individuals. The Censor had declared that it was part of his business to protect individuals from attack. It was pointed out that while he had insisted upon the deletion of the name of *Balsquith* which I gave to a Prime Minister without the slightest reference either to Mr. Asquith or to Mr. Balfour, he not only permitted to pass in the same play a scurrilous allusion to the Pankhurst family, but that he also licensed an unmistakable and an extremely scurrilous attack on Mr. Barker.

"Now, to bring about a state of things in which Sir Arthur Pinero, Mr. Granville Barker, and Mr. Galsworthy will have to take their plays to receive the moral approval of the author of 'Dear Old Charlie' is a situation which you can not conceive to be the act of any responsible Government or any responsible official. I should, in fact, reject it without question or hesitation as a particularly absurd invention if it were not for the fact that the present Lord Chamberlain is capable of anything. One can not, therefore, help the horrible suspicion that he may be even capable of this. All I can say is, if he has done it he has even surpassed himself—a feat which I should have supposed to be impossible."

Actuated by the same resentment exprest by Mr. Shaw, Mr. Granville Barker produced what is described as "a scene absolutely unprecedented in the annals of the stage." It occurred during the production of Mr. Laurence Housman's banned play, "Pains and Penalties," by the Pioneer Players at an invitation performance, which falls outside the Censor's jurisdiction. He had forbidden the play a year or two ago because it dealt with the history of George IV. and Queen Caroline. The scene that was interjected is thus described by the London *Daily News*, proving that in London as well as in New York the theater is still vital enough to produce some of the real excitements of life. We read:

"The whole thing was as unexpected as it was swift and sure. No sooner had the curtain fallen for the interval than Mr. Granville Barker walked before the footlights, bringing with him Miss Elizabeth Robins, for whom a chair was placed, and there and then the whole gathering resolved itself into a public meeting, to which Mr. Barker proceeded to deliver an impassioned address, received with tremendous enthusiasm.

"After apologizing for the interruption, Mr. Barker said it was at least appropriate that it should be at the production of this forbidden play that he should be forced to move a protest against the political indecency of the appointment of Mr. Charles Brookfield, the author of 'The Cuckoo' and 'Dear Old Charlie,' as joint-reader of plays.

"Personally, he said, he had received many kindnesses from Mr. Brookfield, but this was an occasion when personal feelings must be set aside. He proceeded to read several extracts from Mr. Brookfield's article in *The National Review*, including those in which Mr. Brookfield gave it as his opinion that the golden age of the drama ceased when 'The Doll's House' was produced and the new dramatic movement began.

"If this article, said Mr. Barker, were already written when Mr. Brookfield was appointed, and if he was appointed on the strength of it, the appointment was a calculated insult to the whole body of men with whom the Lord Chamberlain had dealings.

"If, on the other hand, it was written after Mr. Brookfield

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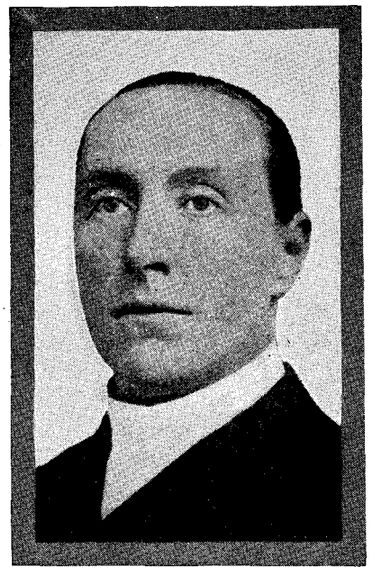
knew that he had got the appointment, it was an act of meanness and of cowardice, the perpetrator of which was unworthy not only of his office, but of any office under Government.

"Mr. Barker then proposed a resolution, which was carried with acclamation, and to which, as has been stated, there were only two dissentients. It was as follows:

" 'That the audience gathered to witness the production of Laurence Housman's forbidden play, "Pains and Penalties," is of opinion that if the statement is true that Mr. Charles Brookfield has been appointed reader of plays, then, in view of Mr. Brookfield's recent published opinions on the modern drama, the action of the Lord Chamberlain is but further proof — if proof is needed—that he is hopelessly out of touch with the theater over which he exercises despotic control, and that a continuance of his legalized tyranny is inimical to the drama's welfare and good name.'

"After this, the play—admirable and stimulating tho it was—naturally came as something of an anticlimax. It has already been made familiar in book form, and we look forward in any case to its early production in public.

"Then Miss Gertrude Kingston's most poignant and appealing *Caroline*—far more so, one fears, than the poor, commonplace Caroline of reality—will have its due reward, and also the magnificent *Brougham* of Mr. Harcourt Williams, whose speech before the House of Lords—composed of extracts from the actual speech—was one of the finest pieces of sustained elocution one has heard from the stage for a long time."



CHARLES H. E. BROOKFIELD,

Who, after writing a doubtful farce called "Dear Old Charlie," has been made joint play-censor for the British stage.

COMFORT FOR AMERICAN COLLECTORS

DR. BODE, who ranks as Europe's most eminent connoisseur of art, recently came and went, spending a brief time in looking over the private collections in this country. His verdict has been eagerly awaited, and now a Berlin correspondent of the New York *Times* reports him as able only to "speak in terms of superlative enthusiasm of all I saw in the United States, especially in the private collections." In this way he pays his respects to our great collectors, such as Mr. Morgan, Mr. Altman, Senator Clark, Mr. Otto Kahn, Mrs. Havemeyer, Mrs. Simpson, Mr. Henry C. Frick, and Mrs. Huntington, of New York; Mrs. Gardner, of Boston; Mr. John G. Johnson, Mr. Widener, and Mr. Elkins, of Philadelphia; Mr. Eastman, of Rochester; Mr. Freer, of Detroit; and Mr. Charles P. Taft and Mrs. Emery, of Cincinnati. The "private collections," asserts Dr. Bode, "had additional interest for me, because, as I learned, their owners, in practically every case, intend eventually to hand them over to municipal or national institutions." Dr. Bode discusses some points that have furnished matter for international debate and disagreement. Thus:

"J. Pierpont Morgan particularly seems to regard his priceless art possessions merely as a trust, to be bequeathed to posterity. Mr. Johnson of Philadelphia, Mr. Freer of Detroit, and Mrs. Gardner of Boston, to mention only a few of the best-known collectors, are inspired with the same high purpose.

"The collections I saw in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Rochester, Detroit, and Cincinnati, which were the only points I had time to visit, are characterized by extraordinary good taste. It is plain that American picture fanciers want only the best masters, and, moreover, only their best works.

"American connoisseurs employ sound business methods in making their purchases. They deal only with the highest-class firms, and many of them, like Mr. Morgan, insist on withholding payment for six months or a year in order that sufficient time may elapse to establish the value of their purchases beyond any question of doubt.

"American collections are not wholly devoid of inferior old masters and forgeries, but they are no worse off in this respect than the collections in Europe. The rate at which America is acquiring fine old masters is astounding. When I visited the Chicago World's Fair there were, perhaps, twenty-five Rembrandts in the United States. To-day there are from eighty to eighty-five. Mr. Altman of New York alone has twelve; Mr. Widener of Philadelphia has ten, including the famous 'Mill,' which is undoubtedly the world's finest landscape. There are four real Raffaels and dozens of superb Van Dycks in American hands. Mr. Widener's collection contains eight Van Dycks.

"I saw quite enough this time to explode the myth cherished so commonly in Europe, that Americans are actuated by sheer snobbery in seeking to possess themselves of old masters. In isolated cases, perhaps, snobbery has played a part; but to-day, almost universally, it is high-minded ideals and intelligent and keen enthusiasm for pure art which actuate your great collectors. Europe may well envy such a spirit.

"Your collections are not only rich in canvases, but in rare gobelins, Italian and Spanish majolica and enamels, Chinese and Persian rugs, ivories, porcelain, medieval paintings, Egyptian and Greek antiquities, sculpture, magnificent specimens of crystal and gold work — everything, in short, which makes for completeness and good taste.

"American money, of course, is chiefly responsible for advancing the cost of old masters and other art treasures to their present fabulous figures. We are compelled to pay from ten to twenty times as much for Rembrandts, Frans Halses, and Van Dycks nowadays as twenty years ago.

"I regret to confess that I see no hope of improvement in this direction. You have money, you have ambition, you have good taste, and you will continue to drain old Europe in an increasing degree of its long-cherished gems.

"When I consider that J. Pierpont Morgan alone, with his annual expenditure of, roundly, $3,000,000 on art, commands a budget just thirty times that at the disposition of the Berlin Royal Museums, I realize the hopelessness of competing against such odds."

"America's greatest art requirement at present," concluded Dr. Bode, "is the education of experts of its own, who will, when competent, become the directors of the public museums. This supply at present is still drawn largely from Europe."

"RABBIT-LIKE PROFESSORS"—Mr. John Jay Chipman takes a fall out of American professors in a recent essay on "Professorial Ethics." It occurs in his recently published volume where he asserts that the "average" of this species "will look on at an act of injustice done to a brother professor by their college president with the same unconcern as the rabbit who is not attacked watches the ferret pursue his brother up and down through the warren, to predestinate and horrible death." Further:

"We know, of course, that it would cost the non-attacked rabbit his place to express sympathy for the martyr; and the non-attacked is poor, and has offspring, and hopes of advancement. The non-attacked rabbit would of course become a suspect; and a marked man the moment he lifted up his voice in defense of rabbit-rights. Such personal sacrifice seems to be the price paid in this world for doing good of any kind. I am not, however, here raising the question of general ethics; I refer to the philosophical belief, to the special theory of professorial ethics, which forbids a professor to protect his colleague. I invite controversy on this subject; for I should like to know what the professors of the country have to say on it. It seems to me that there exists a special prohibitory code, which prevents the college professor from using his reason and his pen as actively as he ought in protecting himself, in pushing his interests, and in enlightening the community about our educational abuses."

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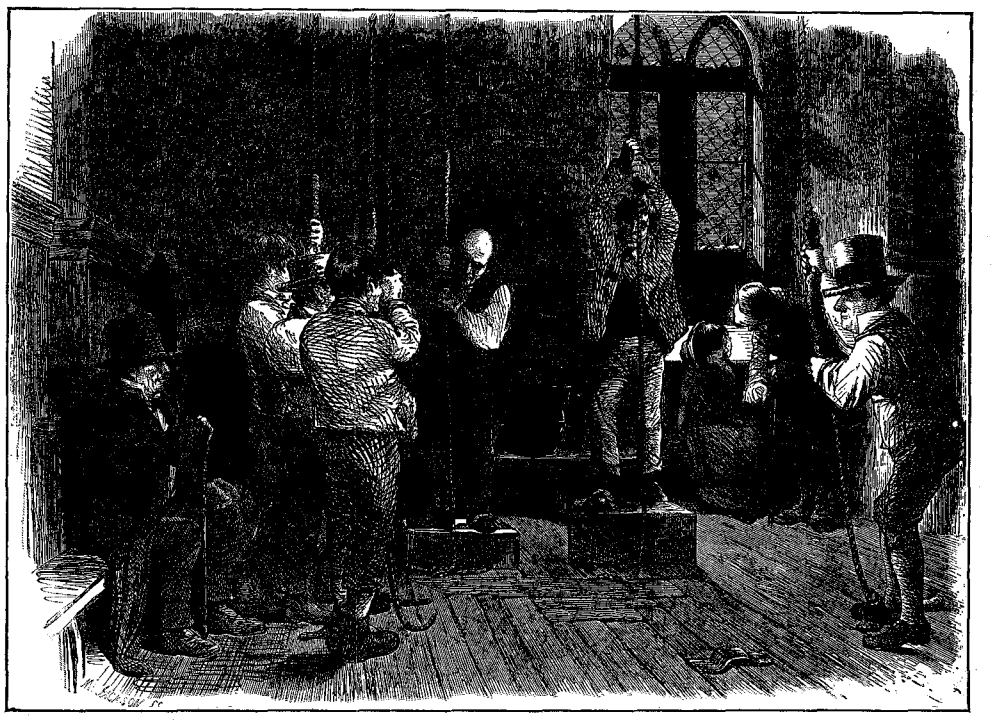
RELIGION AND SOCIAL SERVICE

THE PROCESSION OF CHRISTMAS SONG

THE GREAT CHORUS of song that lifts itself from millions of voices at this season of the year—the song of Christmas—had its overture sounded toward the end of the first Christian century. It was not the joyous song of to-day, nor for that matter were the songs of many succeeding centuries, we are told by Prof. George Halley Gilbert. Too much of dogmatic controversy entered into their ideas to make them singable to-day in a translated form. This perhaps accounts for the fact that they are intermittent up to the time of the Reformation. The second and third centuries of the Christian era were silent altogether, then "we begin to hear voices in the East and the West, singing in the Syriac, the Greek, and the Latin tongues, of the birth in Bethlehem." Nineteen Christmas poems issued from Ephraim of Edessa, who lived in the fourth century.



"BELL-RINGING."

An impression of Christmas of fifty years ago, from the pen of Charles Keane. This drawing he contributed to *The Illustrated London News* of 1856.

The carols and hymns belonging to the Middle Ages are "almost innumerable," while from the time of the Reformation there has been a constant choir of song celebrating the birth of Christ. Some of these hymns are examined by Professor Gilbert in *The Biblical World* (Chicago). The Christmas poetry of the first four centuries reflected little of the peace on earth the child was heralded to bring. Instead, it "echoed the conflicts of the times." Besides Ephraim of Edessa there were Ambrose of Milan, Sedulius, and Fortunatus, "who shine as orators and poets, some of whose verses are still heard in the church." Of the first of these we read:

"Of all who have sung of the Nativity, in ancient or in modern times, Ephraim not only is the most voluminous, but he also bears off the palm for wealth of thought. He is as rich in allusions to Old-Testament history as Milton's Hymn is in its allusions to classical history and mythology. He seems to draw from an inexhaustible urn of illustration. There is also in his verse at times an ethical strain of singular simplicity and directness, as witness the following lines in the rhythmical prose version of Dr. Gwynn of Dublin:

" 'That night is fair wherein the Fair One came to make us fair. Let not aught that may disturb it enter our watch. This night belongs to the Sweet One; let nothing bitter enter it. . . . In this day of gladness let us not spread sadness. In this day so sweet, let us not be harsh. . . . In this feast let each one of us crown the gates of his heart.'

"What Ephraim says of the Hero of his song is often only versified doctrine, which he hoped would, in this winged form, put to flight the swarming errors of the heretics, but sometimes it is noble and thoughtful. 'Blest be the Babe,' he cries, 'who made manhood young again to-day!' Once more, with a tenderness that we hardly expect in the austere hermit: 'To whom art thou like, glad Babe, fair little One, whose mother is a virgin, whose Father is hidden, whom even the seraphim are not able to look upon?' Ephraim's fancies are often quaint and sometimes obscurely mystical. Thus he blesses the Child 'in whom Adam and Eve were restored to youth,' and continues: 'Thou, O Son of David, hast killed the wolf that murdered Adam, the simple lamb who fed and bleated in Paradise.' And, again, in riddling fashion: 'Eve lifted up her eyes from Sheol and rejoiced in that day [Christmas], because the Son of her daughter came down to raise up the mother of his mother.' But even when Ephraim is upholding the orthodox doctrine of the person of Christ, his verse is not always devoid of poetic charm. Thus Mary says to her child: 'How shall I open the fountain of milk to thee, O Fountain! Or how shall I give nourishment to thee that nourishest all from thy table! How shall I bring to swaddling-clothes One who is wrapt around with rays of glory!' This thought of the contrast between the mother and her child has been a staple of Christmas verse from Ephraim's day to our own."

No Latin writer of the ancient Church, says Professor Gilbert, "approaches Ephraim in versatility, in human tenderness, or in originality." Ambrose's *Veni, redemptor gentium* is a "perfectly frigid versification of the current doctrine." Instead of taking us to Bethlehem or Nazareth, the Christmas verse of Sedulius and Fortunatus "takes us into the atmosphere of councils and theological creeds." The Christmas poetry of the Middle Ages is seen at its best, we are told, in Hildebert of Tours, Bernard of Clairvaux, Adam of St. Victor, and Japonicus, author of *Stabat mater, dolorosa*, one Italian and three Frenchmen. Of these:

"All had poetic gifts, but all, in their treatment of the Nativity, were in abject bondage to church tradition. What they sang was a theological tenet, what they ingeniously adorned was a metaphysical subtlety.

"Thus Hildebert sings:

That blushing Flower, Flower angelic and blest,
Is changed to grass: God assumes our flesh.
The Sun is covered with cloud, the Flower with grass, the Seed with hull,
Honey with wax, the Purple with sackcloth, God with flesh.

This is simply Athanasius done into pleasing Latin verse. Bernard's lines are more melodious than Hildebert's, but hardly less theological. . . . . .

"The seven Christmas hymns of Adam of St. Victor, who is called by one too ardent admirer the 'Schiller of the Middle Ages,' add somewhat to the conceits of earlier writers, as when Mary is said to have been the 'bush unconsumed' and when

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Nature is said to have trembled at the birth of Jesus because that birth overthrew all law; but the general line of thought is strictly conventional.

"It is in the anonymous Christmas songs of the Middle Ages that we find most of freshness and of human feeling. What a relief, after centuries of artificial poetizing on the Nativity, to come upon these lines:

Joseph, da faeni manipulum
Ut sternam filio lectulum;

or the dialog of Joseph and Mary in the 'Coventry Miracle Play':

Mary: Ah, Joseph, my husband, my child waxeth cold,
And we have no fire to warm him with.
Joseph: Now in my arms I shall him fold,
King of all kings by field and frith.
Mary: Now, Joseph, my husband, fetch hither my child,
The Maker of man and high King of bliss.
Joseph: That shall be done anon, Mary so mild,
For the breathing of these beasts hath warmed him well, I-wiss.

"The fancy of this last line is found in very many Christmas songs."

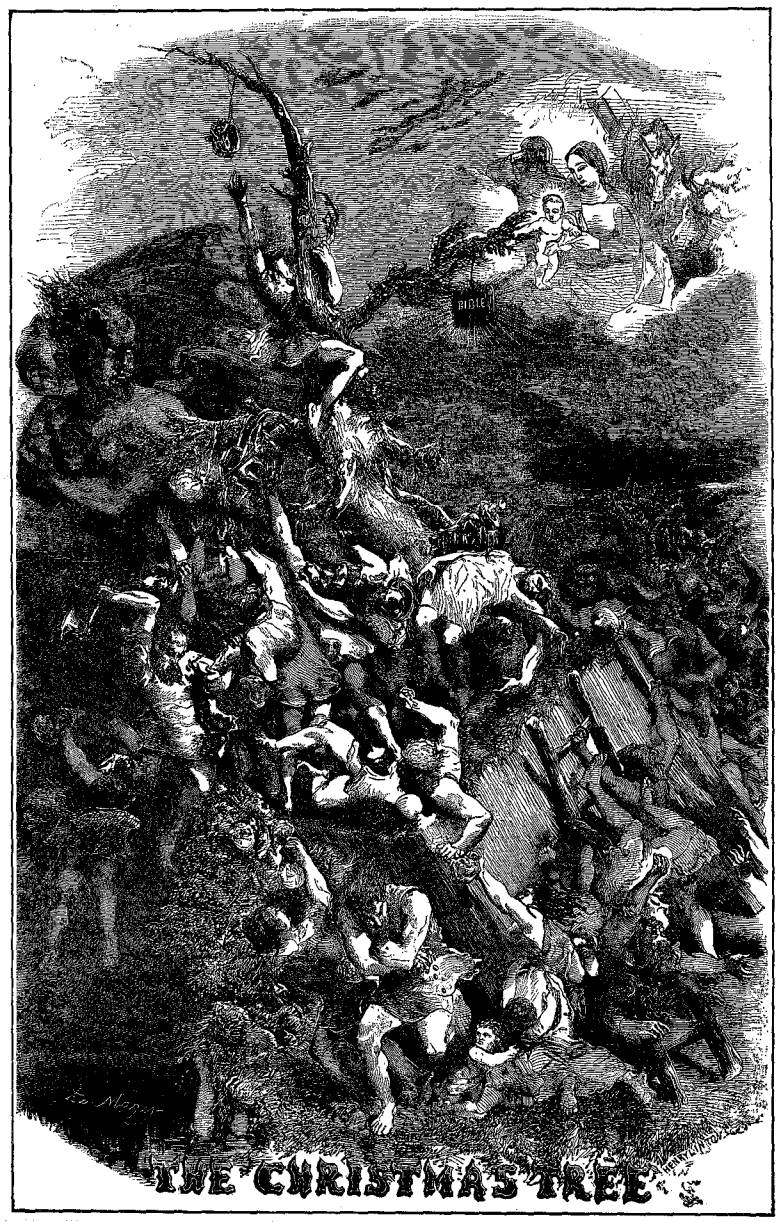
Martin Luther "introduced a new note into Christmas poetry":

"A note which was perhaps due to the fact that, altho he was a monk, he took unto him a wife and became the father of a family. So now for the first time we have a Christmas poem for *children*. True, it is not all level to the mind of a child: it contains some high doctrine; but still there is about it a charm as of the springtime, a simplicity and directness, a genial human sentiment and joyous admiration hitherto unknown. Of the more than one hundred and fifty Christmas hymns of Germany in the sixteenth century this is certainly the crown, and in this there are at least three stanzas which every lover of Christmas literature should know in the original. . . . In all the period from Luther to the present, but especially during the past century, we find in this department of literature two clearly marked types. There is, first, the poem that is still dominated by the early Greek conception of the person of Jesus. This type may be seen in its stiffness and artificiality in the verses of Ben Jonson, or presented with more of grace and melody in our day by the Bishop of Truro. It is found associated with much quaintness in the poem of William Drummond, to whom we owe these lines:

O than the fairest day, thrice fairer night!
Mild creatures in whose warm crib now lies
That heaven-sent youngling, holy-maid-born wight,
Midst, end, beginning of our prophecies;

and again it is seen in the Christmas verse of Christina G. Rossetti, for instance in this stanza:

Born in a stable
Cradled in a manger:
In the world his hands had made,
Born a stranger.



WHERE HEAVEN AND EARTH HAVE HUNG THEIR PRIZES.

An allegorical drawing of mid-Victorian days from *The Illustrated London News* of 1856.

We find it in the devotional lines of Keble and in the carol of Aubrey de Vere, and notably in such lyrists as Charles Wesley, Heber, and Cecil Alexander. It is seen at its highest in what Milton called his 'tedious song,' but what others have regarded as the most splendid Christmas hymn in any language. For the 'heaven-born Child' of this hymn is the 'great master' of Nature; the glimmering orbs stood still at his birth and so remained until he bade them go; he is the 'mighty Pan' who is kindly come to live with the shepherds; and he, even in his swaddling-bands, controlled the 'damnèd crew' of heathen gods. Thus the author's fundamental thought is the same that had dominated Christmas poetry for a thousand years prior to his day."

MARTIN LUTHER AND DIVORCE

OUR RISING divorce-rate, acknowledged and lamented by all our Churches, was attributed, in an article quoted in our columns a few weeks ago, to the influence of Protestantism. The writer, the Rev. W. P. Cantwell, whose remarks first appeared in the San Francisco Catholic weekly, *The Monitor*, furthermore asserted that "divorce in the Christian era came in with Protestantism." He then went on to fix the responsibility for the rise and spread of this evil upon Martin Luther. Whereat Dr. Edward Pfeiffer of the Columbus *Theological Magazine*, a Lutheran publication, protests that "there is no shadow of ground for charging Luther with lax principles in the matter of divorce and the sanctity of marriage," and he adds that, "no Church stands for the Biblical doctrines concerning marriage and divorce more clearly and squarely than does the Lutheran Church." As readers of these pages will doubtless remember, the Catholic writer declared that "it was the corrupt heart of a monk who had broken his vows, and married a nun who had broken hers" ("because they had come to the conviction that monastic vows were both against nature and contrary to the Word of God!" interpolates the Lutheran editor), "that first legitimized divorce." He then said that "courting the favor of princes, Luther allowed the Elector of Hesse to retain two wives tho he took the precaution to suggest that the second should be held in secret," and that before long Henry VIII. accepted "the convenient teaching of the German monk," and "Society became inoculated with the evil."

After quoting these statements, Dr. Pfeiffer proceeds to the defense of Luther in this paragraph:

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"Not to speak of such minor discrepancies as that of making the uxorious Henry to appear as the innocent victim of an example set by Philip of Hesse, tho the former tried hard but in vain to secure Luther's approval of his divorce *nine years before* Luther was unwittingly drawn into the muddle of the Landgrave, we have only space to note the egregious subversion of the facts of history with reference to the substance of Luther's advice and his teaching on the question of divorce. As early as 1520, in his treatise (the 'Babylonian Captivity') against the Romish sacraments, Luther had written: 'I so detest divorce that I prefer bigamy, but whether divorce is ever allowable or not I dare not say.' In a letter to Robert Barnes, who acted as go-between for the special messenger whom King Henry had sent to Luther, dated September 3, 1531, Luther emphatically denied the legitimacy of divorce. Notwithstanding this rebuff, the King made several other attempts to get Luther's approval, but with the same result. So strenuously was Luther opposed to divorce that, in exceptional and flagrant cases of incontinence, as those of the King of England and the Landgrave of Hesse, he held that it would be a lesser evil to take a second wife than to divorce the first. And as to Luther's motive in the case, only Romish malice can impute to him 'pandering to power, courting the favor of princes.'"

In Luther's advice to the King of England, he showed his disinterestedness—"for by complying with the King's wish for divorce he might have won a powerful convert," quotes Dr. Pfeiffer from Preserved Smith's "Life and Letters of Martin Luther." And the same biographer says in regard to Luther's connection with the case of Philip of Hesse:

"Regrettable as is his connection with the bigamy, an impartial student can hardly doubt that he acted conscientiously, not out of desire to flatter a great prince, but in order to avoid what he believed to be a greater moral evil. His statement in the 'Babylonian Captivity' that he preferred bigamy to divorce, and his advice to Henry VIII. in 1531, both exculpate him in this case. Moreover, the careful study of Rockwell has shown that his opinion was shared by the great majority of his contemporaries, Catholic and Protestant alike."

A MODERN "ELIJAH" CONDEMNED

FORTY MINUTES was the time consumed by the jury in Portland, Me., in deciding whether the Rev. Frank W. Sandford was guilty of causing the death of six of his followers. The six succumbed to scurvy and starvation on the recent cruise of the schooner *Coronet*, which Sandford, as its master, kept at sea for seventeen months. One ship with which he started out was wrecked on the African coast. His case has attracted much adverse comment both in the religious and secular press, and so far the latter have received the news of his condemnation with satisfaction. His story on the witness-stand is not without its dramatic interest. He is reported to have taken the verdict calmly, declaring beforehand that "there will be no squealing from me. I am here for the rough and ready of the football game." He had also previously stated that he was on trial before two tribunals—one of God and one of man—and he intimated that he did not fear any earthly verdict. As reported in the New York *Sun*, he took the stand on the last day of the trial, "and for an hour his dramatic story held the closest attention of a crowded court-room." In addressing the jury he laid particular stress upon "seven facts":

"First, that the destination was known to every member of the crew.

"Second, that the destination was unchanged from the time of the wreck of the *Kingdom* off the coast of Africa until the *Coronet* was put about off Cape Race.

"Third, that they had been forbidden by God to visit any country over which they had prayed the previous year.

"Fourth, that they fully expected to secure an abundance of food from the fishing fleet off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

"Fifth, that they expected to get vegetables and fruit from Newfoundland.

"Sixth, that the yacht *Coronet* has always been absolutely under the control of the will of God.

"Seventh, that the troubles of the *Coronet* during the last forty days of the cruise were due entirely to the fact that they disobeyed the will of God and turned about from their trip to Greenland and the far North."

Mr. Sandford then took up each of his seven "facts" and commented at length. *The Sun* gives this version of his speech:

"He said that after the *Coronet* took on board the survivors of the *Kingdom*, he asked God what to do next, and God answered 'Continue.'

" 'The word was continue; we understood its meaning to be to go on with the work,' said Mr. Sandford. 'It was thoroughly discust on board at the meetings and finally it was decided to go on with the work, which took us to the North.

" 'We are disciples of God. If we have not won the medal in the past eighteen years, I do not know who has.

" 'I am talking before a God who listens and knows when I commit perjury and will deal with me on high, no matter what may result in this court.'

"He then declared that all knew what they were to do and that was the time for them to get away if any cared so to do, but not a protest was raised, not a soul left the yacht.

"He declared dramatically, smiting the rail of the witness-stand, that if he had nothing else left for his eighteen years' service for God it was his consciousness of the Almighty and that he had been true to the Lord.

"His third fact, which he contended was essential the jury should know, was that he had been forbidden by God to visit the countries over which he prayed last year and that was why he did not wish to return to the United States.

"Mr. Sandford at this point became much affected, his voice was choked, and the tears glistened in his eyes when he told of the faithfulness of his wife during the eighteen years of his service for the Lord in his present manner.

" 'When I started out,' said he, 'eighteen years ago, and resigned my pastorate, I was living in a brownstone front and had just married a young woman who came of a good family, whose father was worth $700,000. It meant much to her to change and follow this life, and I said to her, "How would you like to live depending upon God with no salary, no contribution-box, not to preach a sermon and then stick a contribution-box into the face of the man who had heard it?" and she said to me, "I think it would be perfectly lovely." Last night I asked her if she was sorry of the decision, and she replied "Certainly not," and she laughed when she said it.'

"Mr. Sandford then said if he had been seeking financial gain he never would have taken up this course of life. He declared with much emphasis that whatever had been said of him no one had accused him of being a coward. Commenting on evidence introduced to show he had said he would sail the *Coronet* into hell if God said so, he explained it was simply a figure of speech used to show how thoroughly he believed in obedience to God.

"He dwelt on the fact he had visited every ocean except the Arctic Ocean and every sea in the world. He described briefly the experiences of the *Coronet* in rounding Cape Horn, and said the only thing that brought them safely through was the heeding of their prayers by the Almighty.

"In his seventh fact he asserted the whole cause and explanation of the hardships which came to the *Coronet* and her crew in the last forty days of the voyage was disobedience to God's will in turning back from the voyage to the far North. This disobedience he attributed to the spirit which had been brought aboard by the survivors of the *Kingdom*."

After saying that he wished to be considered a man who was true to his convictions, he thanked the court for listening to him. But the District Attorney, in making his concluding argument, said it was "necessary to come back from the vagaries of religious fanaticism to the cold facts that must govern a court." The Philadelphia *Record* observes that "Mr. Sandford is very likely not an impostor":

"He is probably as much the dupe of himself as his followers are. Fanaticism is constantly breaking out in one form or another, and Dowies and Sandfords and their like will probably stretch out until the crack of doom. But they will do well to confine themselves to holding meetings. If they interfere with the liberty of any person they are liable to find themselves in the hands of the law, and the Federal Government has jurisdiction over sea-going vessels, whether engaged in trade or in revealing a proprietary form of religion to the Eskimos."

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CURRENT POETRY

SEVEN years ago John Carter, while trying to beat his way west on a freight-train, was discovered by a brakeman and thrown off at a little jerkwater town in Minnesota. He was a boy of nineteen, in a strange country; moreover, it was bitter cold and Carter was starving; so he took a desperate man's chance, broke into the station, and robbed the office of the small sum it held. He was caught, convicted, and sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years. When in prison only a short time he commenced to write poetry. His work soon got attention, prominent men of letters interested themselves in him, and finally his new-made friends obtained a pardon for the prison-poet. This is the brief, familiar story of John Carter's life.

We are rather glad that the details are so few. The touch of mystery makes a better setting for Carter's eloquent first book of poems, called "Hard Labor" (The Baker & Taylor Company). The verses are dedicated "to one who turned not."

The prison shadow is across every page, and lies like a weight on the mind. The poems give the sensation which is caught by looking into a somber, Dante-like face. Carter has received the sorrowful, great gift of genius. His expression is grave, musical, and free, and he is gifted to use a language out of a brighter star than our own.

Hard Labor

BY JOHN CARTER

I

I work, and as the task is done I brood
  On what has been and what is yet to pass,
  A life spilt from an idly handled glass,
And days as this, an endless multitude.

Labor and brooding—is there then no rest?
  Day follows day, and in the silent nights
  Throng ghostly memories of past delights,
Faces I loved, and lips that I have prest.

Until the sullen, deep-toned morning bell
  Wakes me to face a yesterday again
  With all its bitter agony of pain.
Thou didst not linger, Dante, in thy hell.

They say the torture's gone, the dawn's arisen,
  Mercy, to angered hearts a suitor strange,
  Has begged her own; yet this they can not change,
I have been free, and I am here in prison.

III

O thou beloved of the cloud-dark hair,
  Whose hands I clasp no more, whose lips I crave,
  O thou who art so beautiful and brave,
Avert thine eyes; look not on my despair.

I have not breathed thy name since first this gate
  Shut, and the wall upreared its frowning height,
  Unless some stealthy turnkey in the night
Has heard a whisper, sobbing-passionate.

Four gaunt years have I moldered in this place,
  Am I not then repentant of my sin?
  I know not, for my heart is dead within,
Thou art so far—I can not see thy face.

And yet, if thou hadst died, I had returned
  To holy thoughts and long-forgotten prayers.
  So might thy God be cozened unawares
To yield a moment of his heaven unearned.

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How did your college education fail to help you?
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For five years Mr. Hofmann has done this, and is doing it now. He has answered hundreds of questions during that time, placing his unquestioned knowledge of the piano at the free disposal of every piano student.

To know how well this wonderful pianist can write as well as play, just read his department, for example, in the January LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

As one musical critic said, "It is the first time that a great pianist has really said anything worth reading when he writes."

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Prison Sonnet

By John Carter

I dreamed the woman who is all my care
  Had stretched her arms to me; a weakling's tear
  Dropt to my cheek unbidden; near, so near,
She seemed, I strove to touch in my despair
The empress' coronal of night-hued hair.
  But anguish graven on her face I read,
  And in a sudden agony of dread
I forced my lips to unaccustomed prayer:

"If thou art God, despite my unbelief,
  Guard her who hath not sinned against thy word,
Who hath not mocked thee in her deepest grief;
  So shall my mouth revile no more, O Lord!"
Sleep veiled from me the splendor of her eyes.
Who knows if it be thus that he replies?

"Keats" (from *Scribner's*) is one of those bits of verse that are done with perfect art. It is like a thin vessel that rings sweetly to the finger-nail—a tea-cup—not to use, but to delight the eye of the connoisseur.

Keats

By Rhoda Hero Dunn

So little time he took to glimpse the rose!
  To us whose summers are an endless tale
  Each year retold in beauties red and pale,
It seems he scarcely could have watched unclose
One petaled spray, before the tender wos
  Of his own shadow-sheltered nightingale
  Drew him apart to some more lovely Vale
Of deeper leaves and softer flowery shows.
  Yet who of us, for all our summer-times
Has caught one secret of the budding flower?
  Or, in the garden of enhoneyed rimes
Made of a moment's bloom a fadeless bower?
  Who but this hastener to fairer climes
Half-vexed at being mortal for an hour!

We sometimes dare to believe that the dawn of a new era of poetry is breaking. The poets are commencing to find the way and we can begin to hear the tread of the masses in their lines. They are pouring the old passion into new themes. Here, for instance, is "Scum o' the Earth," (*Atlantic Monthly*), flung out with the freedom, raciness, and wildness of Whitman—a song that thrills us with the future of America. Schauffler, Oppenheim, and a few others are groping their way toward a democratic form of poetry that will be read by more than the "passionate few."

"Scum o' the Earth"

By Robert Haven Schauffler

I

At the gate of the West I stand,
On the isle where the nations throng.
We call them "scum o' the earth";

Stay, are we doing you wrong,
Young fellow from Socrates' land?—
You, like a Hermes so lissome and strong
Fresh from the master Praxiteles' hand?
So you're of Spartan birth?
Descended, perhaps, from one of the band—
Deathless in story and song—
Who combed their long hair at Thermopylæ's pass?
Ah, I forget the straits, alas!
More tragic than theirs, more compassion-worth,
That have doomed you to march in our "immigrant class"
Where you're nothing but "scum o' the earth."

II

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What dower bring you to the land of the free?

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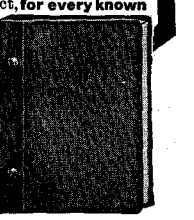

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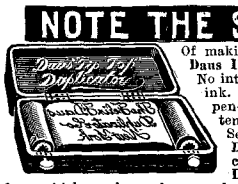

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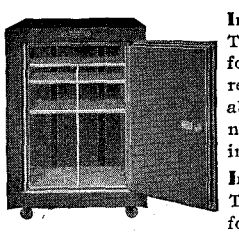

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Hark! does she croon
That sad little tune
That Chopin once found on his Polish lea
And mounted in gold for you and for me?
Now a ragged young fiddler answers
In wild Czech melody
That Dvořák took whole from the dancers.
And the heavy faces bloom
In the wonderful Slavic way;
The little, dull eyes, the brows a-gloom,
Suddenly dawn like the day.
While, watching these folk and their mystery,
I forget that they're nothing worth;
That Bohemians, Slovaks, Croatians,
And men of all Slavic nations
Are "polacks"—and "scum o' the earth."

III

Genoese boy of the level brow,
Lad of the lustrous, dreamy eyes
Astare at Manhattan's pinnacles now
In the first, sweet shock of a hushed surprize;
Within your far-rapt seer's eyes
I catch the glow of the wild surmise
That played on the Santa Maria's prow
In that still gray dawn,
Four centuries gone,
When a world from the wave began to rise.
Oh, it's hard to foretell what high emprise
Is the goal that gleams
When Italy's dreams
Spread wing and sweep into the skies.
Cæsar dreamed him a world ruled well;
Dante dreamed Heaven out of Hell;
Angelo brought us there to dwell;
And you, are you of a different birth?—
You're only a "dago,"—and "scum o' the earth!"

IV

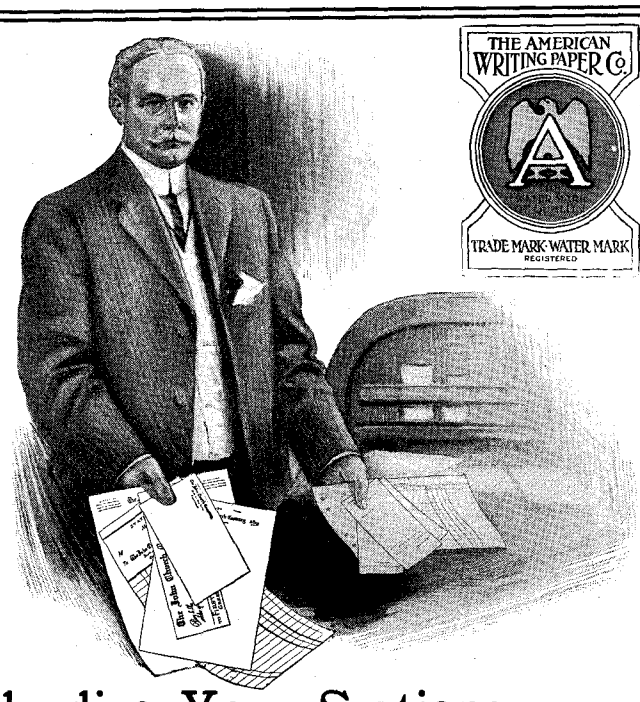
Stay, are we doing you wrong
Calling you "scum o' the earth,"
Man of the sorrow-bowed head,
Of the features tender yet strong—
Man of the eyes full of wisdom and mystery
Mingled with patience and dread?
Have not I known you in history,
Sorrow-bowed head?
Were you the poet-king, worth
Treasures of Ophir unpriced?
Were you the prophet, perchance, whose art
Foretold how the rabble would mock
That shepherd of spirits, erelong,
Who should carry the lambs on his heart
And tenderly feed his flock?
Man—lift that sorrow-bowed head.
Lo! 'tis the face of the Christ!

The vision dies at its birth.
You're merely a butt for our mirth.
You're a "sheeny"—and therefore despised
And rejected as "scum o' the earth."

V

Countrymen, bend and invoke
Mercy for us blasphemers,
For that we spat on these marvelous folk,
Nations of darers and dreamers,
Scions of singers and seers,
Our peers and more than our peers.
"Rabble and refuse," we name them
And "scum o' the earth," to shame them.
Mercy for us of the few, young years,
Of the culture so callow and crude,
Of the hands so grasping and rude,
The lips so ready for sneers
At the sons of our ancient more-than-peers.
Mercy for us who dare despise
Men in whose loins our Homer lies;
Mothers of men who shall bring to us
The glory of Titian, the grandeur of Huss;
Children in whose frail arms shall rest
Prophets and singers and saints of the West.

Newcomers all from the eastern seas,
Help us incarnate dreams like these.
Forget, and forgive, that we did you wrong.
Help us to father a nation, strong
In the comradeship of an equal birth,
In the wealth of the richest bloods of earth.



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"So I've heard. I expect to try it after Christmas.—*Washington Herald.*

Remember This.—It's foolish to be extravagant at Christmas. If you really wish your friends to remember it, give them a cheap present.—*Lippincott's.*

Suspicious.—NURSE—"Here is a little brother for Christmas."

JOHNNY—"Looks like some one had passed on the one they got last year."—*Judge.*

The Outlook.—HOKUS—"Do you expect to spend a pleasant Christmas?"

POKUS—"I ought to. That's about all I have left to spend."—*Woman's Home Companion.*

Small Favors.—MRS. MEYSER—"Could you give me a little Christmas money, my dear?"

MR. MEYSER—"Certainly, my dear. About how little?"—*Life.*

Anticipatory.—MADGE—"Are you going to announce your engagement at once?"

MARJORIE—"Gracious, no! Not until after Christmas. I'm afraid it would scare off a lot of presents."—*Judge.*

Well-Intentioned.—"What is the use of this article?" asked a shopper.

"I really don't know," replied the clerk; "I think it is intended to be sold for a Christmas present."—*Harper's Magazine.*

The Very Latest.—"Here's something for Burbank to look into."

"What?"

"Training a Christmas tree to sprout its own presents."—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

A Reminder All Right.—TED.—"I hope you gave your girl a Christmas present that will cause her to long remember you."

NED.—"I don't know about that; but it's a constant reminder to me, for I bought it on the instalment plan."—*Judge.*

Warnful.—Instead of the usual just-before-Christmas letter to Santa Claus, Robbie wrote a prayer letter to God. After enumerating the many and varied presents he wanted very much, he concluded with: "Remember, God, the Lord loveth a cheerful giver."—*Everybody's.*

Timely Trepidations.—"I'm so worried about the Christmas present I sent to Aunt Sarah," she says. "It only cost forty-nine cents, and I'm afraid I left the price-mark on the thing when I sent it."

"I'm worried, too," says her friend. "I got one that cost fifty dollars, for my uncle, and I'm afraid I didn't leave the price-mark on it."—*Life.*

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CURRENT EVENTS

Foreign

December 8.—Eight foreigners, including four Americans, are reported slaughtered in Kansu.

The collapse of a railroad bridge on the River Volga drowns nearly 200 workmen.

December 9.—The Russian advance in northern Persia is given out as halted by a "violent snow-storm."

December 12.—In the presence of 100,000 people King George and Queen Mary are proclaimed Emperor and Empress of India at Delhi, which city will henceforth supersede Calcutta as capital. It is officially announced that hereafter officers and men of the native army in India are eligible to the Victoria Cross, that some $1,600,000 will be devoted annually to the promotion of education in India, and that other reforms are in order.

It is reported that an Anglo-Russian agreement not to restore the ex-Shah of Persia has been reached.

Domestic

December 8.—The Army and Navy Board, after full inspection of the *Maine* wreck in Havana harbor, reports to Secretary Meyer that the battle-ship was blown up by an explosion from the outside.

The Rev. Frank W. Sandford, leader of the "Holy Ghost and Us Society," is indicted at Portland, Me., on the charge of causing the death of six of his followers.

December 9.—Many coal miners meet death in an explosion in Bryceville, Tenn.

Secretary of War Stimson, in his annual report to Congress, asserts candidly that the United States Army is unprepared for war.

December 10.—Postmaster-General Hitchcock's report shows an annual deficit of $17,000,000 changed to a surplus of $219,000.

The Department of Agriculture estimates the new record cotton crop at 148,885,000 bales.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

December 24.—Congress passes a bill to increase the duty on tea, coffee, sugar, and molasses, with the expectation that it will add $6,000,000 to the revenue.

Bluffton, S. C., is occupied by the Union forces.

December 25.—The Confederate gunboat *Florida* exchanges shots with the Union cruiser *New London*, off Mobile, Ala.

December 26.—A skirmish occurs at Columbia, Ky.

December 27.—News reaches Washington that Colonel Canby, U. S. A., has retaken Forts Craig and Stanton, which had been surrendered without resistance to the Confederates.

December 28.—The diplomatic correspondence between France and England on the one hand, and the United States on the other, in regard to the seizure of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, is made public. The act of Captain Wilkes is disavowed, and Messrs. Mason and Slidell are liberated.

A small body of Union scouts is routed by a Confederate regiment near Sacramento, Ky.

December. 31.—A Union naval expedition occupies Biloxi, Miss.

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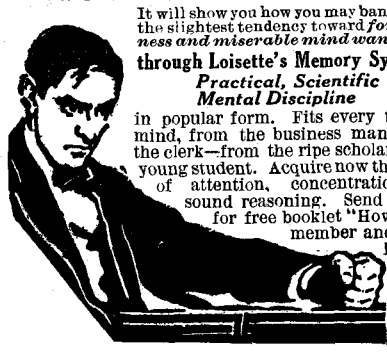

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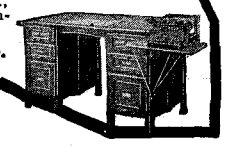

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THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

In this column, to decide questions concerning the correct use of words, the Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

"F. L. W.," Lancaster, Pa.—"A certain driveway leads from a public street within the limits of a city to a group of school buildings. At the entrance of this driveway a sign has been placed which reads, 'Private Thoroughfare.' A thinks that this sign is incorrect and that it should read 'Private Driveway,' or, better, 'No Thoroughfare,' since the word *thoroughfare* always implies a right of public use, however limited such use may be. It is B's opinion that the sign is correct as it is worded. Please state which of these opinions is in accordance with the meaning that is conveyed by the word 'thoroughfare.'"

That the thought of *public* use is invariably presented by the word "thoroughfare" when used to designate a driveway, is shown by the various definitions contained in the dictionaries: "A road or street, open at both ends, by which the public have unobstructed passage"; "an unobstructed way open to the public"; "a road for public use; highway." This would therefore preclude the use of the word "private" in conjunction with the term in question. A road that is closed to public use can no longer be called a thoroughfare, but becomes a private driveway or a private road.

"C. McN.," Chicago, Ill.—"Please give the correct pronunciation of the word 'inquiry.' Usage seems to be divided as to the sound of the second *i*. Is more than one pronunciation permissible?"

This word is properly pronounced in-quir'y (second *i* as in "isle"). The pronunciation in'quir-y (with accent on first syllable and second *i* as in "it"), sometimes heard, is not recognized by orthoepists.

"E. D. S.," South Norwalk, Conn.—"(1) Will you please give the derivation of the abbreviation 'O. K.'? (2) What is the difference in the meaning of the words 'further' and 'farther'?"

(1) Various explanations are given for the form "O. K.," but the one most generally accepted to-day is that it is an abbreviation of the humorous spelling "oll korrect" (for "all correct").

(2) The STANDARD DICTIONARY (page 662) defines "farther" as follows: "More far or distant; also, more advanced in order; additional, as of mention or treatment: in the latter meaning generally *further*." In other words, while "farther" and "further" are sometimes used interchangeably, the tendency is to employ "farther" when the idea of actual distance is intended, and "further" in the figurative senses, especially in the meaning "additional" or "wider."

"R. D. B.," Harrisburg, Pa.—"(1) In closing a letter with the word 'oblige' or 'remain,' what punctuation, if any, should be used after the words quoted and before 'yours truly'? (2) When should 'cannot' be used and when 'can not'?"

(1) A comma is not customarily placed after the word "oblige" or "remain" in the connection cited above (see G. P. Quackenbos's "Rhetoric," p. 361). Usage, however, is not rigid on this point. (2) The STANDARD DICTIONARY prefers the form "can not" to "cannot" in all cases.

"A. R.," Bailey, Ida.—"Is *but that* correctly used in the following sentence: 'There is no doubt *but that* his intentions were the best,' when it is meant to affirm the fact that his intentions *were* the best? Does not the use of 'but' in such expressions really negative what it is desired to affirm?"

The STANDARD DICTIONARY (page 2367, under the heading "Faulty Diction") has the following on the use of "but that": "When both words are used as conjunctions, the phrase must be employed with special discrimination. *But* is in many cases redundant before *that*. . . . The omission or insertion of *but* often reverses the meaning. 'I have no fear *that* he will do it' and 'I have no fear *but that* he will do it' have contrary senses, the former indicating the feeling of certainty *that he will not do it*, and the latter the feeling of certainty *that he will do it*." From this it will be seen that the sentence in question, in the meaning intended, is complete without "but."

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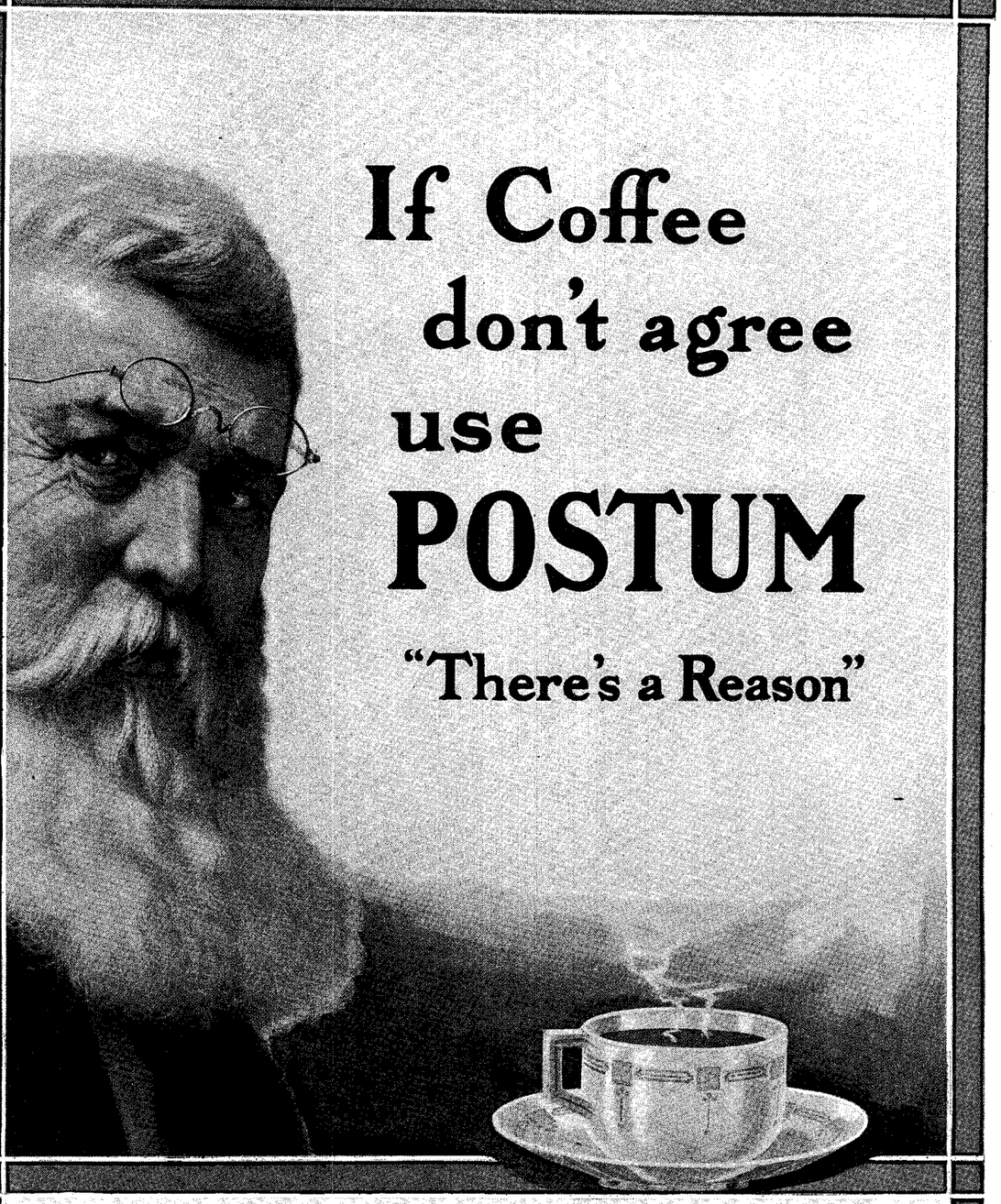

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